

hillviews

vol. 46 no. 1 | **Spring 2015** | MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



HEALTH *by* DEGREES

TEXAS
STATE
UNIVERSITY
The rising STAR of Texas

hillviews contents

Spring 2015



Keeping in step

The Bobcat Marching Band has been a symbol of Texas State since 1919 and has grown in stature and popularity with thousands of students, parents, and fans.

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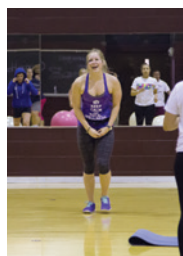
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ABOUT: *Hillviews* is produced three times a year by the University Advancement division. We'd love to hear from you. Send us your comments about the articles in this issue, or send story suggestions. Email Hillviews@txstate.edu; fax to (512) 245-3817; or mail to *Hillviews*, Texas State University, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666-4613.

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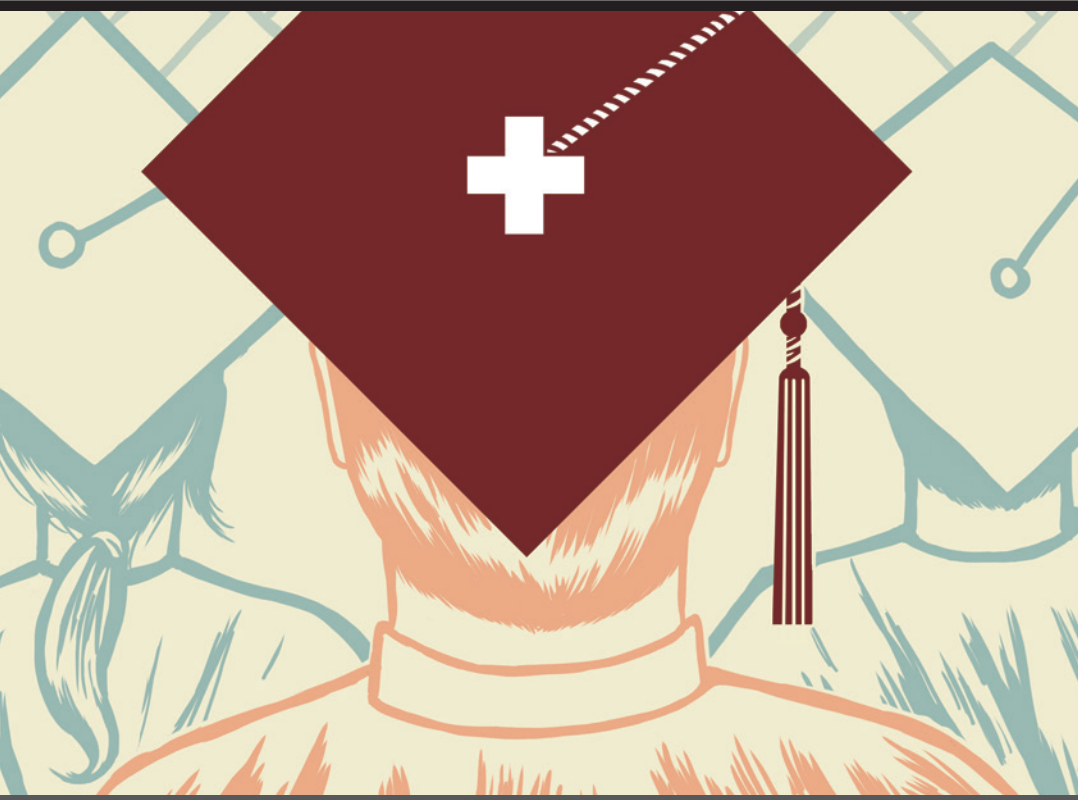
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Texas State is poised to produce more graduates than ever before in the health professions, not only creating more professional jobs for our state, but playing a key role in making it healthier. Each year, the U.S. Labor Department lists the 100 best jobs in the country, and it should come as no surprise that in 2014, 11 of the top 20 paying jobs were in the health professions.

Doctor of Physical Therapy program



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vol 46 no 1 | Spring 2015
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(from the president's desk)



Dear Friends,

Health care in Texas is changing rapidly. It has to in order to meet growing demands.

Population increases, demographic shifts, and a shrinking pool of physicians and other health care professionals are putting stress on the state's health care system. This combination of factors is magnified when one considers that Americans are living longer and that more of them are developing acute illnesses that require greater health care.

As Texas' population continues to grow and more health professionals from the Baby Boom generation retire, it's easy to see how this challenge is escalating.

As examples of this changing landscape, nurse practitioners have wider roles in the delivery of health care; and electronic medical records are replacing paper files, allowing healthcare professionals to gain access to important patient information faster than ever before.

At Texas State University, we're excited about the prospects of preparing more professionals for these and other important changes taking place in the health arena. We added a Master of Science in Nursing program with a Family Nurse Practitioner major in 2013, and we hope to have authorization for a Doctor of Nursing Practice in 2015. One of our fastest growing programs in our College of Health Professions is in Health Information Management, an industry that is predicated on streamlining access to health records.

Of course, our College of Health Professions encompasses many programs at the undergraduate and graduate level, and collectively they are aimed at making our region and state a healthier place. It is unsurprising that these disciplines have been growing in recent years. Among the most critical space needs at Texas State is a new health professions building for our Round Rock Campus (the other is for an engineering and science building for our San Marcos Campus). Given this growth, we thought it would be appropriate to devote some of the space in this issue to exploring the successes of our health professions programs.

Other features in this issue profile the Bobcat Marching Band, which has grown to more than 300 members since it was formed in 1919; longtime donors Jesse and Betty Luxton, who are passionate about education and extending opportunities to those who have need; and Texas State alumnus Rod Keller, CEO of Segway, the two-wheeled, self-balancing transport vehicle popularized by tourism hot spots across the country. We hope you enjoy it!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise M. Trauth". The script is fluid and cursive.

Denise M. Trauth

(wide)views



Keeping in step

BOBCAT MARCHING BAND MORE THAN
300 STRONG NEARS ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY

by Julie Cooper

Think about two-a-days – the grueling summer practice sessions punctuated by shouting coaches, heavy lifting and uneven formations. But don't think football. These challenges are routine for the Bobcat Marching Band during its preseason camp.



FOR MORE OF THE BOBCAT MARCHING BAND:

www.txstate.edu/bands/bands/marchingband

www.facebook.com/BobcatMarchingBand

In August at Jowers Field,

the entire band – more than 300 strong – practice together in the mornings and again in the evenings, even on weekends. Everyone is dressed for a workout – shorts, T-shirts (or no shirts) and running shoes. The aroma of sunscreen permeates the air. Students lug big coolers across the grounds and a meandering line forms in front of an ice machine. Despite the taxing conditions, band members seem to take it in stride. “I wanted a way to meet people,” says freshman baritone player Kyle Creamer, an electrical engineering major from Corpus Christi, echoing the sentiment of several others in the band.

The band has come quite a way since it first performed at the former Evans Field in 1919 as the Southwest Normal School Band. Then, it had only 22 members. It wasn’t until 1928 when band members got their first uniforms, which included hats and capes.

Just four years away from its 100th birthday, the Bobcat Marching Band has participated in presidential inauguration parades, gubernatorial parades and the Macy’s Day Parade. The band has performed at a pro soccer game in Mexico, appeared in films and on television, and last fall was the featured halftime entertainment when the Dallas Cowboys played the New Orleans Saints in a nationally televised game. In November, the band performed at Austin’s Circuit of the Americas during the Grand Prix weekend and participated in the Bands of America Super Regionals in San Antonio.

Dubbed the Pride of the Hill Country, the Bobcat Marching Band reached the 300-member plateau in 2013, spurred in part by scholarship opportunities, says Dr. Kyle Glaser, associate director of bands. He oversees the athletic bands with the assistance of Matthew Holzner, assistant director of bands, and Kari Klier, marching percussion coordinator. Dr. Caroline Beatty is the director of bands.

“The reason why the band has exploded recently is largely due to the scholarships – university officials recognize these people put in an incredible amount of time and do a great service for this university,” Glaser says. “The scholarship is great and it is a reward for them. It is tailored to encourage people to get people active in the organization.”

Brass and woodwind players with high school experience are admitted without preliminary auditions. Auditions are required for percussionists, color guard members and twirlers. Glaser says auditions may soon become more critical once the band reaches 325 members, a self-imposed cap to keep the band from getting too big.

“The thing I find most interesting is how this organization is a collection of so many varied experiences. We have students who come to Texas State and their previous marching band experience might have been that of a very large competitive Austin-Houston-San Antonio marching band program. Then we have other students who come from small schools in rural Texas who march in a completely different style than what we have done here. We also have people who have an extremely limited marching band experience,” Glaser says.

Bobcat Band traditions are fun to watch and hear – from members putting their horns atop their heads during “train breaks” (several trains routinely rumble by Jowers Field during morning practices) to Glaser shouting from atop a tower, “Let’s do it again!” To which band members reply in unison: “Only better!”

Three-year member Nina Cueva, a clarinet section leader from San Antonio who shares an apartment with her best friend and fellow clarinetist Elizabeth Mora, a senior music major, describes the band experience endearingly as a love-hate relationship. “When you are in it you’re like, ‘Ugh, marching band.’ But then when you are

The band has come quite a way since it first performed at the former Evans Field in 1919 as the Southwest Normal School Band. Then, it had only 22 members. It wasn’t until 1928 when band members got their first uniforms, which included hats and capes.

out of it, you’re like, ‘I miss marching band!’”

Even after graduating, band members and their fans maintain a bond with Texas State. A band photo posted on the Texas State Facebook page can get 100 ‘likes’ in 30 minutes. The Bobcat Alumni Marching Band, made up of about 100 members spanning five decades, performed with the Bobcat Marching Band at the Sept. 13 game against Navy. Alumni band members expect to make the occasion an annual event.

Austin Tran, a former trombone player who now is the assistant band director for Cypress Ridge High School in Houston, fondly recalls his days with the Bobcat Marching Band. “I loved being in the band, my closest friends I have today I met in the band,” he says. That includes his girlfriend, Ana Hernandez, who is the assistant band director at Clear Lake Intermediate School in Houston.

Tran has several memories, including one freshman episode in which prank-minded band members decided to perform to the opposite side of the stadium. “I lined up on the wrong side and walked out with a bunch of flutes,” he says, smiling.

Taking it to the real world

Program brings M.B.A. students together with municipalities, non-profits to develop strategies | By Tony Cantú



It used to be that Texas State University's M.B.A. program concluded with a capstone class that required student teams to conduct an exhaustively researched analysis of an organization's strategy – and to do so in a classroom setting. But in April 2014 the classroom walls came down, and it's turned into an experience that no other assignment can match.

Graduate students comprising five teams were dispatched to Georgetown and Round Rock to help develop forward looking strategies. The change led students to a real-world experience, collaborating alongside officials at the two municipalities and a non-profit organization in making a measurable impact on issues unique to those entities.

Program Director Matthew Painter said the program reboot resulted in a symbiotic process, giving students a more meaningful

experience while providing top-notch strategic analyses at no cost to outside entities. Dr. Dennis Smart, associate professor of the Department of Management at the McCoy College of Business Administration, and Painter helped assemble the student-led teams. In a glimpse into the competitive corporate landscape that awaits M.B.A. graduates, the results of their input were judged during the McCoy M.B.A. Case Competition.

"We couldn't be more pleased with both the process and the outcome," Painter says. "Based on the feedback we received from the cities, they are very happy with the process and final result."

Measurable results

For students, working alongside city officials was a heady experience. One group worked with Georgetown law enforcement officials on crime analysis, seeking to find the

origins of financial fraud against seniors at a retirement community. Another team helped develop water usage strategies and recommendations, the importance of their fresh insight heightened during a time of historic drought.

By moving beyond the classroom for the capstone class, students gained a more tangible experience and the opportunity to see measurable results from their input not achievable in the conceptual confines of a classroom. "It was a hands-on learning experience with an actual client," Painter says. "This has always been a team project but it had always been academic. We felt it could be a richer and more robust experience for the students especially with the opportunity to shake hands and look people in the eye."

Having been involved with such external projects at the University of Omaha and Texas A&M University, Smart is an ardent supporter of such initiatives. "The reason we did it was multifold," he says. "But what we really wanted was for students to learn through personal discovery in a real-world environment. And, a very important side benefit is that students develop a more robust perspective of communities. As future leaders, it is important for our students to have a better understanding and appreciation of their communities as they leave the university."

Students voiced their enthusiasm for the revamped approach. Kurtis White said even the action of assembling the teams yielded important lessons: The importance of picking good teammates, finding the strengths of each participant and the importance of discipline in achieving positive results. He said the lessons he absorbed from the experience would serve him well.

"Absolutely this will be helpful in the future, in work, volunteer activities and even in spending time with friends," says White, a member of the winning team that advised the Georgetown Police Department. "I have some hope of Georgetown P.D. acting on our recommendations. We'll see how it goes."

Team contributions

Clay Akers' team was charged with making recommendations to the City of Round Rock on how to increase the flow of customers to its central business district, as well as maximizing the use of a tract of land in the downtown sector. To have attempted to consult on a project of that scope without leaving a classroom would've been challenging, he noted. Akers cited the contributions of his fellow team members — Ryan Lucas, Virginia Gunte and Jeff Briggs — and the benefits of working in a cohesive unit toward a shared objective. "The most valuable lessons came through working with a team of highly motivated, high-performing students who were working toward a common goal much like in a real-world environment. We all wanted to express our ideas, be heard and leave our marks on the final outcome."

The importance of conveying authoritativeness and confidence while in the midst of a healthy exchange of ideas also emerged as an important attribute to possess. "If we are to be trusted advisors/consultants/employees, we must not be afraid to speak our minds. We must build our reputations for having well-researched, well-thought-out recommendations so that even if our advice conflicts with what our client wants to hear, the client will have respect for our advice," Akers says.

Elio Camey and his team had a similar charge, advising Georgetown officials on the pros and cons of positioning their historic downtown as a destination point for bolstered commerce and visitor traffic—recommendations that yielded a thick volume replete with insight. "Our 86-page report was a great framework for the city to review and consume or as a reference when considering future policy," Camey says.

Honing their skills

The project gave Camey a glimpse into the tactics of diplomacy and leadership he will need to reach his own career objectives: "My professional goal is to someday run a division or company. I will benefit from the experiences of engaging different groups and people in general, and having the ability to read my audience and adapt to it during meetings and conversations."

Wasiuddin Ahmed served on a team



a lot of information and data in a very short time frame and figure out what we could do for the client. It was like being in the business world, where everything was needed yesterday."

Akers summed up the experience in an assessment shared by all participating students: "This was a lot of fun."

University Federal Credit Union partnered with the McCoy M.B.A. program and provided prize money for the first, second and third place teams in the final project case competition. The winning teams were selected by a panel of Texas State faculty judges. UFCU also provided the funds to award each student with a commemorative plaque.

Students and professors alike agree that the capstone class experiences could not

"WE HAD TO SIFT THROUGH A LOT OF INFORMATION AND DATA IN A VERY SHORT TIME FRAME AND FIGURE OUT WHAT WE COULD DO FOR THE CLIENT. IT WAS LIKE BEING IN THE BUSINESS WORLD, WHERE EVERYTHING WAS NEEDED YESTERDAY."

– WASIUDDIN AHMED

advising Georgetown officials on water conservation. He said the experience helped hone his skills in dealing with people under deadline pressure, a daily experience at his job at Apple in Austin. "I think the best value was in learning to apply what we learned," he says. "We learned all those aspects — from management to financial communication to behavior aspects of it."

Placing second place in the capstone completion, the water project was perhaps the most data-driven of all the entries, Ahmed says. Given only four weeks to come up with a list of recommendations, the team had to move fast. That tight deadline required grace under pressure in dealing with others. "I learned to communicate better," he says. "We had to sift through

have been duplicated in the classroom. "So much of the academic process has to do with sitting in a classroom listening to lectures," Akers says. "Don't get me wrong, it's a necessary part of the process. But to have the opportunity to get out of the classroom and put all of our years of professional and academic experience and education to work was quite valuable and much more engaging than a lecture."

Both Painter and Smart, who joined Texas State after spending time in the private business sector, echoed the students' assessment. "Education is a discovery process, and sometimes you have to get your hands dirty to engage in that discovery," adds Smart.

Athletic training moves beyond the sidelines

First nationally accredited program in the state prepares students for growing job market | By Salwa Choucair



Left: Christina Vander Vegt was awarded a grant through the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association to collect data for her thesis.



Center: Emily Boyer (left) and Andrea Hernandez (right) have completed internships with the San Antonio Scorpions soccer club.



Right: Graduate student Hiroto Kawamura, an international student from Japan, is in charge of the Texas State baseball team. He has completed internships with both the Giants and Red Sox organizations.

Waiting in the dugout or on the sidelines ready with water, tape or bandages may be the typical image of an athletic trainer from years ago, but fast forward to present day and you may discover a highly trained healthcare professional whose role has changed to that of a healthcare collaborator providing preventative care, diagnostic, rehabilitation, and preventative services.

The athletic trainer is gaining recognition both on and off the field. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 19 percent increase in jobs through the year 2022, faster than the average growth of most occupations. Texas State's Athletic Training Program has been continuously approved and accredited since 1972, and continues to provide students with a quality classroom and clinical education that prepares them for a growing job market.

"The Athletic Training Program is one of our hidden gems in the College of Education," says Dr. Stan Carpenter, the college's dean.

"While everyone thinks of us as the teacher education people, and we're very proud of that mission, we have a couple of dozen other kinds of programs in the college. Athletic training is one of them, and we are very pleased with it."

Foundation for success

As a graduate of the program, Andrew Kreis is excited about his future in the field. He completed two summer internships with the NFL's Houston Texans, which was his dream come true. "I feel like I am prepared," says Kreis, who accepted a graduate assistant position at the University of Arkansas, where he is working on his master's degree in physical education while serving as the athletic trainer for the women's softball team. "I know that I will be nervous the first couple of times I go out on the field alone as an athletic trainer, but I feel that I have the foundation I need to be successful."

With both undergraduate and graduate degree plans, the Athletic Training Program enrolls approximately 50 undergraduate and

27 graduate students annually. The graduate program offers the only post-professional master of science degree in the state.

"We take pride in really getting to know our undergraduate and graduate students," says Dr. Luzita Vela, coordinator of the athletic training graduate program and pre-physical therapy program. "We take an active role in mentoring and training them through the process in order to set them up for success down the road. This is a time-intensive major on the part of the student and the faculty. We want to continue the strides we have made in the profession with our students."

Strides indeed have been made in athletic training, which was once considered a male-dominated field. Today women make up 54 percent of the profession. High schools and colleges continue to employ the majority of athletic trainers for team sports, but non-traditional employees are hiring them as well; these include physical therapy clinics, industries such as American Airlines for on-the-job injuries, professional sports, the U.S. military, NASCAR, professional rodeo, and performing arts organizations including Cirque du Soleil.

This growing interest is partly due to the 1990 recognition by the American Medical Association naming athletic training as an allied healthcare profession, specializing in the prevention, diagnosis, clinical management and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal injuries and medical conditions. As a member of a healthcare team, the athletic trainer works under the direction of a licensed physician and in cooperation with other medical specialists, administrators, coaches and families.

"The major key to athletic training today is that they are the first responders. The injured must be evaluated immediately. We can impact quality of life for people who are physically active and who get injured," says Vela. "What we are finding out through research is that there are a lot more long-term side effects to what we used to think were very simple injuries such as an ankle sprain. What we try to do is come in really early and set the patient on the right course to have a good quality of life throughout their life – early on as athletes or later on as they become weekend warriors. This is how we as athletic trainers fit into the bigger healthcare picture."

Rise in applications

As part of the College of Education's Department of Health and Human

Performance, the athletic training undergraduate program has seen a rise in applicants because of the field's growing popularity. In fact, Dr. Rod Harter, professor and director of the undergraduate program, says the number of course sections offered to incoming freshmen last year had to be doubled to accommodate the increase in students interested in the program.

Freshmen and transfer students must complete a year-long admissions program before being accepted into the undergraduate program. Since coming to Texas State in 2009, Harter has worked with the faculty to refine and increase the rigor of the prerequisite courses. Students must complete five prerequisite courses, 50 hours of directed athletic training observation and participate in an interview with department faculty and Athletic Department staff trainers. The top 20 candidates are chosen each year.

Once accepted into the program, undergraduates begin a rigorous plan that leads them to a bachelor of science degree in athletic training. Consisting of 122 credit hours, the program starts in the student's

"The major key to athletic training today is that they are the first responders. The injured must be evaluated immediately. We can impact quality of life for people who are physically active and who get injured."

– Dr. Luzita Vela, coordinator of the athletic training graduate program

sophomore year with both classroom and clinical education and continues for the next two years. The clinical portion of an undergraduate's curriculum requires 20 hours a week of hands-on experience in settings such as a high school, physical therapy clinic, diagnostic imaging center, Texas State's athletic teams and the Student Health Center.

"The plan is pretty straightforward," Harter says. "You get a variety of experiences, always supervised by a licensed/credentialed

professional. We give you enough rope to learn, but never enough to hang yourself. Someone is always there to step in and say, 'that's not quite right.' We're about teachable moments. It's the classroom, didactic; laboratory with instructors; and clinical education with professionals. Athletic training education is like a three-legged stool, with all three legs being equally important."

Accreditation and certification

Because the program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education, graduates can take the national Board of Certification exam to become a certified athletic trainer, earning the National Athletic Trainers Association credential. Graduates may also take the Texas Advisory Board of Athletic Trainers examination to become licensed athletic trainers.

"I believe that continuous improvement is what we strive for here," Harter says. "Every year, we want to have a 100 percent first-time passing rate on the national certifying exam. We're above the national average right now, but we want to keep improving each year. I think we have the faculty and program in place to accomplish this goal."

Attracting athletic trainers from a variety of states and countries, the post professional graduate program provides 27 graduate assistant positions, contracting with area schools and businesses to gain field experience. A few of those partnerships include Hays Consolidated Independent School District, Sports Medicine Associates of San Antonio and St. Andrew's High School in Austin.

To complete the master's degree, graduate students must conduct research for either a thesis or a culminating project. The first graduate was in 2009, and since that time, 20 theses have been completed; two have been published and many have been presented at conferences.

"This is the future for athletic training education," Vela says. "Athletic trainers need to be able to understand research in order to consume research, so they can be evidence-based practitioners in the field."

As the field becomes more popular and certified trainers become more in demand, Texas State will continue to produce a select number of qualified professionals and strive to provide them with academic excellence and hands-on experience.



Total Wellness began
with **11 members**
in the summer of 2001

Attendance now exceeds
3,500 per month

Group Exercise

Active Older Adults
Indoor Cycling
Kickboxing
R.I.P.P.E.D.
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Total resistance training
Total X-Fit
Water Aerobics
Yoga
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Youth Fitness

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Body Composition Testing
Metabolic Testing
P.O.W.E.R.
Personal Training
Weight Loss Consultations

*For more information and to register, go to
www.hhp.txstate.edu/Total-Wellness.html*

Total Wellness: for fun, for health – and research

Fitness program helping community on, off campus | By Julie Cooper

When Jenn Murphy fires up the music, members of her Zumba class take to the gym floor at Bowie Elementary School for a 45-minute workout. There is smiling, laughter, a few groans and a lot of sweating. This is Worksite Wellness for employees of the San Marcos school district, an arm of Texas State's Total Wellness program. And there's more to this program than meets the eye.

Sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Performance, the Total Wellness program does more than just provide low-cost, high-quality physical activities and weight-control programs. It trains students on how to deliver those programs, and it conducts research related to health, physical activity and weight control.

Total Wellness co-directors are associate professor Dr. Lisa Lloyd and senior lecturer Carolyn Cook Clay. The program was born out of an independent study project in 2001. "I wanted to maintain my skills and stay up to date and deliver a wellness program, and then Carolyn came along wanting to apply the knowledge that she had learned. It just was the right time and the perfect opportunity to build on the passion and develop this program," Lloyd says.

The program began with 11 members in the summer of 2001 and attendance now exceeds 3,500 per month. There are about 35 paid instructors and more than 600 health and fitness management students who have participated in the program as part of their practicum, which is designed to give them experience before stepping into an internship. Moreover, program offerings now include everything from Aqua Pump (water aerobics) to Zumba (high-impact dance). And classes are tailored to suit all age groups, beginning at 3 years old.

"One of our goals is to help people manage their weight – and we try to offer a lot of different programs for individuals who are struggling with managing their weight," Lloyd says.

At Bowie, PE teacher Rose Berglund, who also lectures at Texas State, leads a cross-fit class each Thursday. "Sometimes teachers don't have any 'my' time," Berglund explains, noting that the opportunity to work out at the end of the day serves another segment that may not otherwise have access to the program. Staff and faculty can participate at 12 locations in a variety of classes.

This spring, the Texas State Employee Wellness Program is also free to all employees. "Texas State wants to make our employees' health a priority," Lloyd says. The Human Resources Department approached Lloyd because of what she says was done at the school district. The program now includes swimming at the Aqua Sports Center, group exercise in various campus

locations and racquetball at Jowers, as well as wellness checks and Lunch 'n Learn sessions.

Murphy, the Zumba instructor, says what began as a hobby is now her career. A certified aerobics and fitness trainer, Murphy also leads classes at Jowers and the San Marcos Activity Center, which are popular with women and men. Her sessions routinely fill up quickly.

Josh Anguelles, a senior majoring in music and minoring in exercise science who leads a kick-boxing class at Jowers Center, says his class will typically vary from four to 12 participants on any given day. Ability levels vary by individual, but all participants seem to enjoy the workout. On one recent day, Arguelles kept up a continuous stream of instruction over the loud music.

Sarah Alvarez, in the office of University Advancement, has been a Total Wellness member since 2006. She sticks to a noontime routine at Jowers that has helped her shed about 75 pounds over the years. For Alvarez, the daily regimen means a healthy lifestyle without sacrificing family responsibilities. With a family history of diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure, Alvarez emphasizes it is important to keep her weight down.

"I think overall it is just a healthier way. If you are stressed at work or you are overwhelmed, it's nice to take that hour or 45 minutes and work out. Then when you come back you are refreshed – and you get back to work," Alvarez says.

Lloyd agrees, and cites research that shows a healthy employee is more productive and has less absenteeism. "We have presented on and/or published research about best practices and strategies to reduce attrition. Furthermore, members often volunteer to participate in our research studies, such as investigation of cardiovascular responses to various formats of group exercise, including yoga and bench stepping." The latest research involves the identification of motivational factors that contribute to retention (i.e., motivational factors that keep people coming back for more).

Lloyd sums up Total Wellness as a three-pronged project. "It's service, it's teaching and it's research. It's an opportunity for students to learn; an opportunity for Carolyn and me to deliver a high-quality, low-cost program for the community; and then it is an opportunity for me, other faculty members and students to conduct research. Our big goal, from a research perspective, is to learn and identify how to keep people in a program. My goal is how we keep them motivated, how we reduce attrition and increase retention."



San Marcos public schools had home on Texas State campus

Lab schools used to train future teachers | By Julie Cooper

A recent renovation may have brought new sparkle to the Quad's 97-year-old Comal Building, but, the fact is, educators and students had been shining in it for years.

While it is widely known that Texas State University began as a teacher training college, not everyone knows that the public schools serving San Marcos were once located on campus. And the Comal Building — formerly known as the Education Building when it was built in 1918 — once served as a laboratory school for high school students.

Laboratory schools were operated in association with colleges or universities and were used to train teachers and to conduct research and professional development. Early in the 20th century, Texas State had an agreement with the San Marcos school board to teach local students in laboratory classrooms. By 1914, the college opened its own practice school and in 1923 negotiations ramped up for a cooperative agreement between the college and the city schools.

In his book *Rugged Summit* (1970, University Press), Tom W. Nichols explained

that the head of the college's Department of Education effectively served as the superintendent of the laboratory school, and that public school teachers were considered part of the college teaching staff.

But as college enrollment grew, it became more challenging finding space on the college campus for laboratory classrooms. Then-President C.E. Evans came up with a plan. He offered the school board the use of college buildings, including utility and maintenance costs, and even promised to cover a substantial portion of teacher salaries. The college in turn benefitted from grants to cover some of the costs of educating schoolchildren, and it had the advantage of preparing its teachers without having to send them elsewhere for training.

By 1933, arrangements were completed and a contract was approved for the laboratory school of the college. In 1939, the Auditorium-Laboratory School Building (now the Evans Liberal Arts Building) was completed and was used to teach students from kindergarten through sixth grade. Two years later, San Marcos High School

students began relocating to the Education Building. It had been remodeled a few years earlier and included an auditorium, a gymnasium, two textbook store rooms, a reference library, 10 teachers' offices and 27 classrooms.

From 1941-1951 the Education Building served grades 9 through 12 as San Marcos High School. Rattler yearbooks from the 1940s indicate that San Marcos High was just like any other high school in Texas: it fielded athletic teams, formed student clubs, sponsored theatrical plays and held dances. In the fall of 1951, the laboratory schools became too large to maintain on the college campus, and San Marcos High School students moved into a new facility off of university property.

The Education Building served the College of Education until 1977 when it became the Psychology Building. In 2012, just before the Department of Psychology moved out, it was renamed the Comal Building. In May 2013, the building underwent a \$13.85 million renovation, which was completed before the 2014 academic year. Now, the Department of

Texas State President Denise Trauth (far right) stands with San Marcos High School alumni who gathered for the re-dedication of the Comal Building, which was home to the high school from 1941 to 1951.

1941-1951
the Education Building
(now Comal Building)
served grades
9-12
as San Marcos
High School

9,980
San Marcos population
in 1950

54,076
San Marcos population
in 2015

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Philosophy occupies the first floor, which includes a contemporary, glass-walled study lounge, and part of the second floor. The Department of Computer Science occupies a portion of the second floor and the entire third floor.

For a moment last October, on the day the building was re-dedicated, a portion of its past was rekindled. About a dozen San Marcos High School alumni from the 1940s and '50s were among those attending the ceremony. "It made sense to have public school students here on campus," President Denise Trauth told them in her remarks, recalling the days of the laboratory school. She added that the building, which was gutted and retrofitted, "is now wonderful study space for our students."

The oral history with Yancy P. Yarbrough, (1904-1996) former principal of San Marcos High School, is part of the collection at the San Marcos Public Library. The transcript is available here: <http://bit.ly/TXSTeducator>

San Marcos High School alumni remember life on campus

Patty Sherrill Sullivan, a head cheerleader and a "Rattler Sweetheart," remembers parking her car just steps from the high school.

Kay Allbright Tilton recalls that girls were limited to three electives in high school – homemaking, driver's education and Spanish.

And Wayne Moore, who last attended high school more than 65 years ago, still remains active with his Class of 1947. More than 15 years ago, the class endowed a scholarship for San Marcos High School students who plan to attend Texas State. Since it was begun, the group has awarded more than \$35,000 in scholarships.

The three were among about a dozen former SMHS students who gathered October 1 for the dedication of the Comal Building, which decades earlier served as their high school laboratory school.

Moore was one of the speakers, telling attendees that he felt comfortable "here today in front of this building." As

a youngster, Moore said he had gone to country schools, "but when it came time to go to high school this country boy had to come to town to go to school."

Moore remembers that his high school fielded "a pretty good football team," which produced a district championship in 1946. The escalation of World War II took a toll on San Marcos High. Milton Jowers was the coach for both football and basketball, until he entered service in World War II. Principal Yancy P. Yarbrough also served during the war.

Moore, who retired from the City of San Marcos, recalled a number of changes he witnessed at the university over those decades. The football team used to play at Evans Field, where the Strahan Coliseum parking lot is today. The building where he took industrial arts courses is now used for physical plant operations.

In 1950, the San Marcos population stood at 9,980 – today it officially stands at 44,894. That's a long way from a time when everybody knew everybody in town. The returning San Marcos High graduates got to experience a little of that, and recall a time when going to school on the hill was for the Rattlers.





Professor Emeritus Bill Kolbe *equal parts artist and teacher*

By Kathleen Scott

A tall lean man with silver hair and beard, Professor William “Bill” Kolbe looks about 20 years younger than his 89 years, perhaps because he’s still an active artist. He says he began drawing “from the time I could stand up” and recently finished a series of 14 watercolor paintings titled *Moods of the Gulf*, variations of a sky-water-land view painted in Port Aransas.

In the years between his first creation and his latest, he has crafted a full life: serving in the Pacific during World War II, marrying an extraordinary woman and raising a family, earning multiple college degrees and teaching for more than 50 years. He spent nearly 40 years at Texas State University, before retiring in 2003. He was honored with the title professor emeritus.

Susan Krals (B.S. '68) remembers her art professor and fellow faculty member as funny. “He treated his students like adults, and it was refreshing. He touched a lot of lives that weren’t the mainstream. He was honest in the most beautiful kind of way and he encouraged us to be who we were,” she says.

During his time at Texas State, Kolbe was both a highly regarded teacher and a prolific painter who remained true to his artistic integrity. He grins as he talks about his first exhibition in 1964, for which he claims to be “the first one to paint a nude that was allowed in San Marcos.” The painting, called *Saving Retsy Ross*, was of a pink nude at a sewing machine making a flag. It caused a furor. Asked about the ideas behind the work, he mentions his satirical sense of humor, the social turbulence of the times and the Vietnam War.

Kolbe spent the next 39 years serving the school and its students while painting the world through his own unique lens. He plunged into creating a watercolor program and establishing a new curriculum for art teachers. The prevailing methodology for teaching art in Texas elementary schools at the time was holiday based. “At Thanksgiving they drew turkeys, at Christmas they drew trees, at Easter it was bunnies,” Kolbe recalls. The curriculum he

produced was based on teaching art principles, elements and materials, reinforced through practice. In addition to classes on campus, he would travel as far away as Uvalde to give weekly extension classes to teachers in the field. Kolbe says his philosophy of teaching was, “Be one-of-a-kind. Be the first of yourself, never the second of anyone else.”

Artist James “Dusty” Pendleton (B.A. ’70) credits Kolbe with a discussion that changed the course of his career. “He was an example, the way he was as a person and an instructor ... Kolbe was the kind of professor that cared.” Years later, after Pendleton had traveled widely in Europe painting figurative pictures, Kolbe encouraged him to return and paint regional Texas landscapes, work for which he’s since received acclaim.

Distinguished Professor Emeritus Dr. Everette Swinney says Kolbe was “one of the most original and productive faculty members we’ve had. His students had an unusual opportunity to see someone who deals not only with theory but with a practice. (It was) a tremendously valuable experience.”

Some of Kolbe’s paintings are familiar to students and faculty. From 1982-1991 the university reproduced watercolor paintings as the official school Christmas cards. In 1997 Swinney donated an original Kolbe watercolor to hang in the Faculty Senate offices. Kolbe’s work has sold in galleries in Boston, Phoenix, Houston and San Antonio. Critic Glen Tucker of *The San Antonio Light* wrote, “Here is a major talent, a manipulator of man’s foibles and a synthesizer of his ideas. These gifts, coupled with a sardonic wit, an insight that penetrates the surface and a high degree of technical skill, stamp his work with originality, strength and gusto.”

Kolbe’s style has evolved over time, from regionalist paintings to fantasy and from pageantry to a Western style replete with cattle and cactus. Women have been a common subject through the years. “The female figure is the single most inspiring piece of equipment in the world,” Kolbe says.

The person Kolbe admires most is his wife, Ella, an attractive woman with an infectious smile. The first time he asked her to marry him was in 1950. The second time was May 2014, just before their 64th anniversary. They said “I do” again on the banks of the San Marcos River to celebrate their love and partnership.

The couple’s four children, Del, Jill, Val and Ken all grew up in San Marcos. All attended the university; Ella Kolbe did too, earning a master’s degree. The family’s connection with Texas State continues through scholarships and the university’s programs for veterans. They endowed the William Kolbe Scholarship in Art Education, the Ella Kolbe Scholarship in Elementary Education and the Ken Kolbe Texas State Men’s Golf Fund Endowment in memory of their son Ken, who died in 1980.

Oldest son Del Kolbe did a tour in the Air Force before graduating from Texas State. In 2012, the College of Liberal Arts honored him with a Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award for his success in Paradigm Tax Group and his fund-raising for veterans groups. He also served on the university’s Veterans Advisory Council. Del’s wife, Janice Moon Kolbe, is also a Bobcat who became an elementary school teacher. Together they endow the Del D. Kolbe Scholarship in Business and Entrepreneurship and the Janice Moon Kolbe Scholarship in the College of Education.

Bill Kolbe’s favorite things in life now are his wife, family and painting. His favorite painting? “The last one I did,” he says.



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HEALTH *by* DEGREES



In 2014,

11

of the **top 20 paying jobs**
were in the health professions.

In **1972**, Texas State
began offering programs
in the health field. It had

3

faculty members and

24

students.

In **2014**, Texas State's
College of Health
Professions had more than

100

faculty members and

5,000

students.

St. David's School of Nursing opened
in 2010 at the Red Rock Campus with

100

students.

More than

850

affiliation agreements maintained
to provide clinicals, internships
and field experience for students.

Need for health professionals driving university programs, U.S. job market

BY MATT FLORES

Each year, the U.S. Labor Department lists the 100 best jobs in the country, and it should come as no surprise that in 2014, 11 of the top 20 paying jobs were in the health professions. Health care is also the No. 1 field that is producing new jobs – up to 5 million per year, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics – and not just for newly minted graduates.

Students choosing to return to college for advanced degrees are looking at fields such as physical therapy and clinical laboratory science – two of the programs that are offered at Texas State University. The university also is adding or bolstering programs in health information management, radiation therapy and health administration, key areas of the health care arena that are expected to experience significant growth in the coming years.

Texas State began offering programs in the health field through its Allied School of Health Professions in 1972. It had three faculty members and 24 students, and faculty members had to do much of their teaching on the road because in those days students were already working in clinical fields. More than 40 years later, the need for additional health professionals has become more critical. Today, Texas State's College of Health Professions has more than 100 faculty members and 5,000 students.

Among the newest academic units within the college is the St. David's School of Nursing, which opened in 2010 at the Round Rock Campus with its first class of 100 students. A master of science in nursing program with a family nurse practitioner major was added in 2013, and the university has plans to authorize a Doctor of Nurse Practice in 2015. Nursing students are also able to study abroad and practice their skills in less developed areas of Central America.

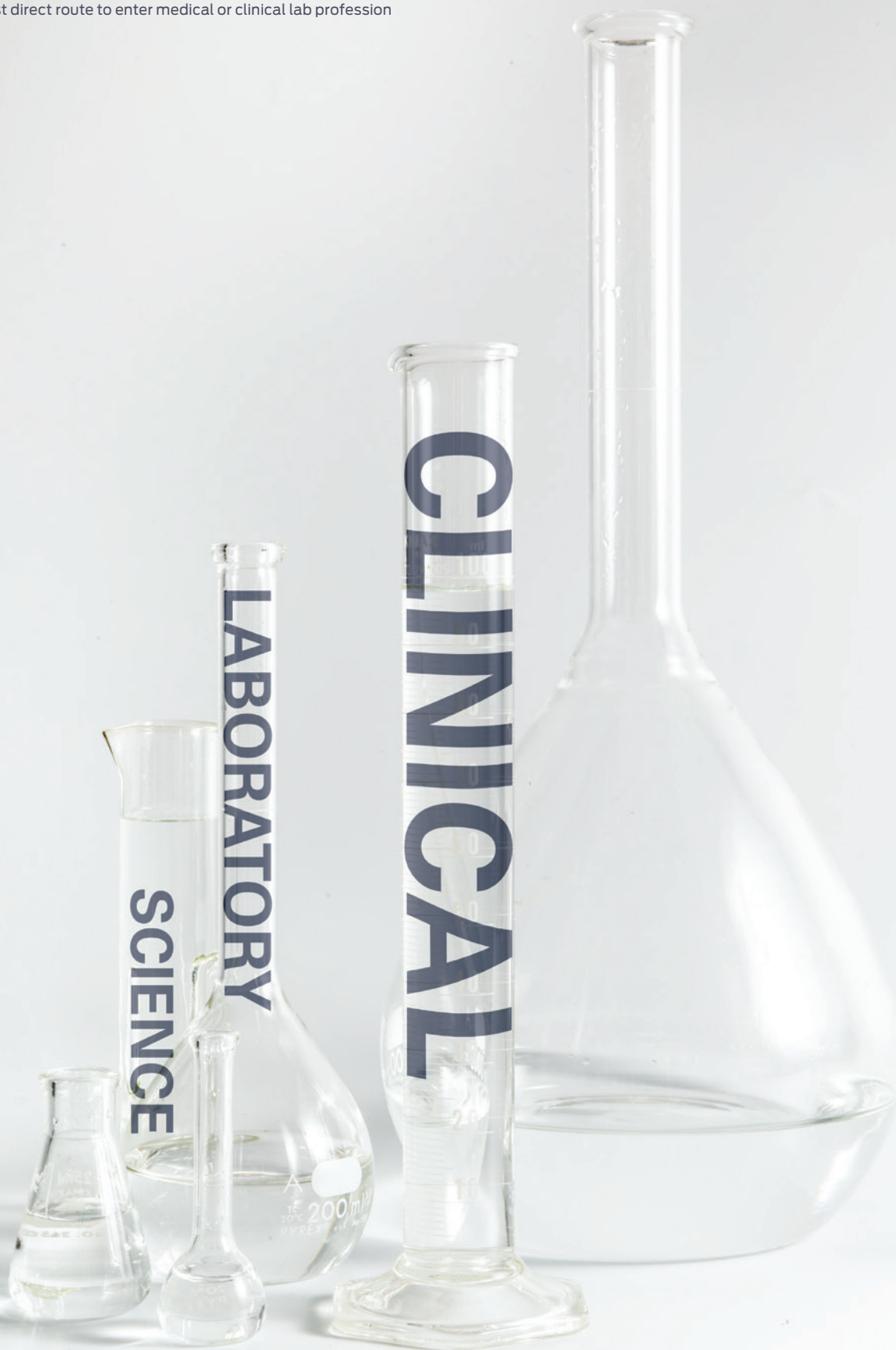
Besides the nursing school, the College of Health Professions has seven other academic units: The School of Health Administration; the departments of Communication Disorders, Health Information Management, Respiratory Care, and Physical Therapy; and programs in Clinical Laboratory Science and Radiation Therapy. Baccalaureate degrees, master's degrees, a clinical doctoral degree, and certificate programs are offered, and more than 850 affiliation agreements are maintained to provide clinicals, internships, and field experience for students.

Perhaps most importantly, Texas State is poised to produce more graduates than ever before in the health professions, not only creating more professional jobs for our state, but playing a key role in making it healthier. 🍌



CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE PROGRAM

- » Graduates have a 90–95% employment rate
- » Most direct route to enter medical or clinical lab profession



*High demand in this hidden health profession
outpaces supply of graduates*

BY DAN R. GODDARD

About 7.25 billion laboratory tests are conducted annually in the United States according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, but the general public has little awareness of the clinical lab scientists who routinely measure cholesterol and glucose levels, test for genetic disorders such as sickle cell disease, provide cancer test results, determine the correct antibiotic to prescribe and type blood for surgery.

“People tend to think their lab tests are done by their doctor, like it’s done on *House* or *Grey’s Anatomy*, but, in fact, you probably wouldn’t want your personal physician to do your lab tests because the specialized skills required are not an integral part of the medical school curriculum,” says Dr. Rodney E. Rohde, chair and professor of Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) and associate dean of research for Texas State’s College of Health Professions. Since the public doesn’t see the lab work being done, clinical lab science tends to be a hidden profession, Rohde says, even though it is one of the fastest growing professions in the country. “We are working to change the hidden nature of this profession by mentoring graduates, faculty and working CLS professionals to become leaders in the field.”

Texas State offers a four-year curriculum leading to a bachelor of science in CLS that is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). Students learn to use sophisticated laboratory instruments to perform tests in microbiology, immunology, immunohematology, hematology and clinical chemistry. Graduates have a 90 to 95 percent employment rate.

Direct route

“The ones who don’t have a job typically go on to graduate school,” Rohde says. “I tell students that if they don’t work, it’s their choice, because the demand for CLS graduates is growing at a rapid pace when compared to other occupations. But students still tend to stumble into the profession because they haven’t heard of it. Usually they find out about it from another CLS major, alumni/professional or after they discover how difficult it is to get a job in a clinical laboratory or medical reference laboratory with another major that will not lead to this profession.”

The CLS degree is the most direct route to enter the medical or clinical laboratory profession via a NAACLS-approved program such as the one Texas State offers. “One must typically go through a NAACLS-approved program to be qualified to take the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) certification exam

“NATIONWIDE THERE IS A CRITICAL LABORATORY PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE. THERE’S A BIG GAP BETWEEN RECENT GRADUATES AND AN OLDER GENERATION THAT’S GETTING READY TO RETIRE. THAT’S WHY THERE’S SUCH A HIGH DEMAND FOR OUR GRADUATES.”

Joanna Ellis, clinical assistant professor and clinical coordinator

or others like it. This credential is truly the benchmark to work in these types of clinical and medical laboratory settings,” Rohde says. Research shows that about 75 percent of the data generated by this profession is utilized by physicians and other healthcare professionals to make informed decisions about accurate diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease and illness.

“As our students go through their clinical rotations, they see that out in the field it feels like every lab is short staffed,” says Joanna Ellis, a 2007 graduate who is now a clinical assistant professor and clinical coordinator at Texas State. “Nationwide there is a critical laboratory professional shortage. There’s a big gap between recent graduates and an older generation that’s getting ready to retire. That’s why there’s such a high demand for our graduates.” Ellis completed the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Leadership Academy in 2013.

Clinical rotations

A key difference between the CLS major and others in the sciences (biology, chemistry, microbiology, etc.) is that students in NAACLS-approved CLS programs will conduct required clinical rotations alongside traditional coursework at a variety of hospitals and other reference laboratories. These enriched clinical education experiences are unique for this major and are part of the professional training one must receive to sit for the MLS credential. Rohde, who is the new president of the Texas Association for Clinical Lab Science (TACLS), tells students that the CLS degree is like majoring in four to five areas with one degree. It’s one of most rigorous and difficult degrees at the baccalaureate level.

David Falleur, CLS associate professor, says Texas State’s CLS program has undergone many changes since he initiated the program in 1974, serving for 39 years as its chair. When he began, students had to divide their studies between the campus and the veterans’ hospital in Temple. But since the mid-1980s, the program has been consolidated in San Marcos, graduating about 20 students each year.

“The biggest change in the profession has been the advent of computer systems, which led to more automation and less manual work in the lab,” Falleur says. “The other area of innovation has been the evolving role of molecular diagnostics in identifying diseases and determining the right kind of therapy. We’ve added more faculty members with expertise in molecular diagnostics, which can be used to zero in on the specific kinds of mutations causing a particular disease, such as cystic fibrosis, and come up with a much more accurate diagnosis and treatment.”

A past president of the TACLS, Falleur is currently involved in efforts to establish statewide licensure for clinical laboratory professionals. “We have voluntary certification, but I think requiring licensure would be in the best interest of public safety,” Falleur says. “Texas has the highest rate of closures for labs that do not meet federal safety standards. Texas is the largest state that does not require licensure, but the TACLS is proposing to introduce a bill in the legislative session to make sure that the people doing the important work of CLS are qualified to do so.”

Programs such as CLS and others in the College of Health Professions are very competitive. Students are required to apply at the undergraduate or graduate level and be selected through a variety of measures. “CLS selects a cohort (20 students) each year from a larger, competitive pool,” Rohde says.

Additionally, it is a requirement that CLS students are taught by credentialed faculty who have worked in the clinical and medical environments as practitioners. The nature of an accredited program requires students to be taught in all phases – classrooms, labs, and clinicals – by credentialed faculty. This is another difference from other majors who may not be taught by professors in the laboratory portion of their courses. “It creates and demands a sustained time commitment by the faculty and students which leads to a family atmosphere,” says Rohde. ☺

Learn more about Texas State’s CLS program at www.health.txstate.edu/cls/

Women forge leading roles in CLS

BY DAN R. GODDARD

Women, historically, have played leading roles in Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS), says Joanna Ellis, 2013-2015 president of the Texas Association for Clinical Lab Science (TACLS).

"Catholic nuns were among the earliest women to do lab work in hospitals and women have tended to dominate all areas of management in CLS since then," Ellis says. "Because our work is behind the scenes, CLS attracts people who want to be involved in a health care field that focuses on the science of diagnosis and treatment rather than patient interaction."

Recent figures from the Department of Health and Human Services indicate that the clinical lab field is dominated by women, 79 percent to 21 percent. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the job market for medical lab technicians and scientists will increase by 14 percent through the year 2016. According to Jobs Rated Almanac, medical laboratory science has 25 percent job growth and good job security. Among health-related professions, it currently ranks No. 3.

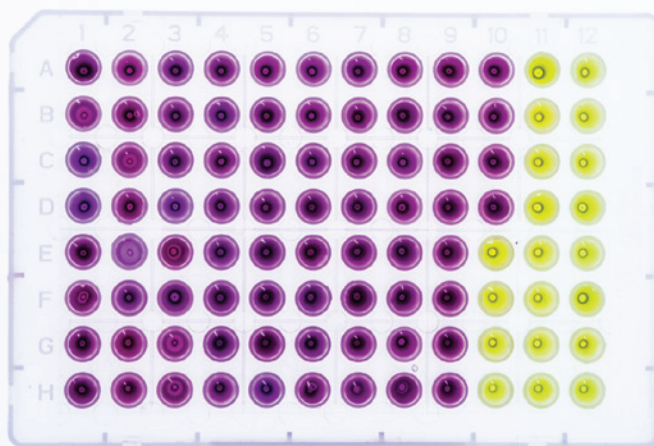
Nathalie Austin started at Texas State as a microbiology major because she was interested in laboratory sciences and thought it would be the best avenue for becoming

a scientist. "During my sophomore year, I started focusing on my career goals and researching my options," she says. "I realized there were very limited professional opportunities in the clinical laboratory with earning a bachelor's degree in microbiology. I came across the CLS major in the Texas State student handbook and noticed that it was exactly what I envisioned myself doing."

Austin graduated in 2001 and today is a microbiology supervisor at the San Marcos-based Central Texas Medical Center. "This profession allows me to do what I love – science," Austin says. "As a CLS, I can perform microbiology testing, blood banking, chemistry testing, hematology and molecular testing. It's also nice to know that there are so many other positions available for the CLS like medical equipment engineering, healthcare management, sales, teaching and so on. But this profession is kind of the underdog in the healthcare industry since it's behind the scenes and not involved in direct patient care. When people think of healthcare, they automatically think of nurses and doctors. But because the decisions we make directly affect the treatment of a patient, physicians are depending on the CLS to deliver fast and accurate results."

Women in CLS

Recent figures from the Department of Health and Human Services indicate that the clinical lab field is dominated by women, 79 percent to 21 percent.



Lindsey B. Coulter graduated in August with a bachelor's degree in CLS. Coulter previously completed a B.S. in microbiology in 2010 and a master's in biology in 2012 from Texas State. She was one of five people nationally awarded an Emerging Infectious Disease Training Fellowship, selected from a field of 325 applicants to work at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta. Coulter is the first graduate from Texas State to receive this fellowship.

"Although a CLS degree and certification are not required for the position, the lab I am currently working in does perform clinical-based work," Coulter says. "When Dr. Rohde told me about the CLS program – which like many others, I had no clue about – I knew it would provide me with opportunities I would not see with my biology degrees alone."

"I think the best thing about the CLS program at Texas State is the level of involvement the professors have with their students. The professors are there to encourage you and help you grow into the professional they believe you are. The knowledge I gained in the CLS program set me apart from all the other candidates for the training fellowship and gave me the edge I needed to be given this awesome opportunity." 🌟

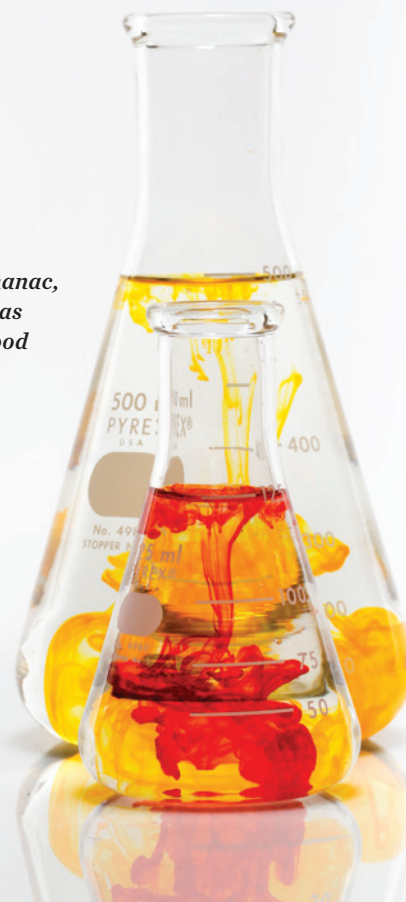
Job Market

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the job market for medical laboratory technicians and scientists will increase by 14 percent through the year 2016.



Job Growth

According to Jobs Rated Almanac, medical laboratory science has 25 percent job growth and good job security.



Top-Ranked Job

Among health related professions, medical laboratory science ranks No. 3 in job growth.





What are the most effective ways of providing care to underserved populations?

DOCTOR *of* NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM

What types of screenings produce the best outcomes among patients with chronic health problems?

aimed at nurses in highest levels of health care

BY LAURA HEINAUER

Are there better nursing methods for stopping the spread of infectious diseases such as Ebola?

Are there better nursing methods for stopping the spread of infectious diseases such as Ebola? What types of screenings produce the best outcomes among patients with chronic health problems? And what are the most effective ways of providing care to underserved populations?

The St. David's School of Nursing at Texas State University is working toward creating a program aimed at developing leaders who can help answer these and other questions with a new degree that's expected to be authorized this year. The Doctor of Nursing Practice, or DNP, is a response to the rapidly changing health care environment and increased complexity of nursing practice. The program is designed for nurses who want to work at the highest levels in the healthcare profession and act as leaders in translating the latest research into actual real-world applications. It will allow students who have master's degrees the opportunity to get a doctorate in one of three areas – nursing education, integrated health care or nursing administration.

Dr. Marla Erbin-Roesemann, director of the St. David's School of Nursing at Texas State, says graduates from the program will be the leaders that hospitals turn to when developing new methods and protocols. The graduates will fill

excited about having more DNPs in Central Texas. Cropley, who earned a DNP degree from Texas Tech University, is also a certified pediatric nurse and a registered nurse. "We're going to be better able to impact the health outcomes of our patients, learn more from our peers and improve the professionalism of nursing in general in a greater way," she says.

The DNP program will need approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, whose members will be looking at issues of cost and quality as well as duplication and need, Erbin-Roesemann says.

Sean Taylor, a clinical education placement coordinator and proposal writer with Texas State's St. David's School of Nursing who helped write the program proposal, says it will also help fill a void in the number of qualified nursing educators. "The need for nurse educators is just critical," he says. In 2012, more than 7 percent of all nursing faculty positions across the United States were vacant.

The fact that the program will allow a student to obtain a DNP degree and complete courses required to be certified as a nurse educator upon graduation is also something that will make the program unique. "It's not a normal thing to do, but we felt it was of value to the population we serve," Taylor says.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice is different from a Ph.D. in that the goal is to enhance and strengthen the practice of nursing rather than focusing on the production of nurse scientists, Erbin-Roesemann says. The full-time program will include both online and face-to-face interaction and require 42 credit hours over five semesters.

Rather than having to complete and defend a research dissertation, the capstone for a DNP is a practice-oriented project, Taylor says. Candidates for admission to the program would include advanced practice registered nurses and nurse executives with master's degrees in nursing.

"It gives them a new perspective, a way to see the world differently," Erbin-Roesemann says. "These are individuals I would expect to see out there driving change, leading the pack." 🌟

The need for nurse educators is just critical.

Sean Taylor, *clinical education placement coordinator*

faculty jobs as well as be called upon to testify in front of lawmakers on issues involving health policy, she says.

The intention, Erbin-Roesemann said, is to create graduates who will become the experts that shape future generation's systems of care. "The focus is on leadership," she says. "If you look at our core curriculum, the emphasis is on educating to that next level, to create leaders who can advance nursing in this century."

Dr. Stacey Cropley, director of practice for the Texas Nursing Association, says she was

ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL OF NURSING

» To earn a B.S. in nursing, students complete 130 semester credit hours, including 63 hours of prerequisite course work and 67 hours of nursing courses.

Nursing students put their skills to the test

By Laura Heinauer



MEDICAL MISSION TO NICARAGUA



In 2013, nursing student Christina Hammond had to hold bake sales and launch a GoFundMe website to have a chance to learn about nursing on a 12-day, not-for-credit trip to a remote area of Nicaragua.

Nursing students now have the opportunity to have the same kinds of experiences while also getting course credit for their work. They may even use student financial aid to help pay for it thanks to organizers who converted the trip to several rural Nicaraguan farming and artist communities into a study abroad course for the St. David's School of Nursing at Texas State University.

The trip, which is open to senior-level nursing students, gives students the opportunity to earn up to 75 percent of the 90 hours of clinical contact hours they need to graduate. In January more than 30 students traveled to Nicaragua; that is up from 13 students in the program's first year and before course credit was part of the equation.

"It's just the most amazing experience," says Hammond. Having gone into the nursing field intending to be a woman's health nurse before her initial trip, Hammond credits the experience with opening her eyes to other areas. "They were so grateful for everything that we were doing," she says of the people she met in Nicaragua. She recalls several encounters where the people would offer her large amounts of food despite being very poor.

"I decided to go into oncology, where I've found patients who seem to be so thankful to have another day. I've had some great patient interactions that remind me of the trip. It really compares to the feelings that I experienced there," Hammond says.

The trips involve students trudging for miles along muddy roads to get to mountainside villages located among ranches. The houses are often nothing more than a few cinder blocks and plastic tarps. Students spend their first days making home visits to determine if anyone in the area is sick and to assess their patients' access to clean water, shelter and sanitation. Next, they help set up clinics with local physicians and Spanish translators in churches, schools and even peoples' garages.

"We see everything from diabetes and hypertension to Dengue fever," says Beth

Biggan, a clinical assistant professor who has organized the trip each year. Biggan said the students see many patients with allergies or gastrointestinal issues. Some have had chronic illnesses such as AIDS. Sometimes there are emergencies.

"There was a girl who had leukemia and another girl that had been pecked in the leg by a chicken," Biggan says, recalling some of the cases her students have encountered over the years. For the first year of the new study abroad course, Biggan set up clinics in four communities instead of two. Participants



"On this trip they are going into people's homes. They are putting the whole picture together of what this patient is living with and not just what is going on inside the walls of the hospital."

Beth Biggan, clinical assistant professor

still spend at least one day in a community hospital observing how health care systems work in other countries.

Richard Grewing, who went on the trip as a student in 2013 and is now an emergency room nurse in Round Rock, said he often thinks about Rosa, an -80year-old woman with diabetes. Though his Spanish was limited, they spoke at length about faith and religion. She told him she would tell God about what he had done for her. He said all he did was give her some Advil and her diabetic medication. "It's a powerful thing. She was just so thankful for a little thing," he says. "It really taught me how I need to go the extra mile to try and communicate with, and advocate for, my patients."

Both Hammond and Grewing recall their first visit to a Nicaraguan emergency room, where the doctors used rusty instruments and tattered sheets separated patients from one another. "It was not as sanitary," Hammond says. "And we did see one person pass away."

Biggan said the students are exposed to a much wider range of experiences. "In a hospital here, they are caring for the patient in the bed," she says. "On this trip they are going into people's homes. They are putting

the whole picture together of what this patient is living with, and not just what is going on inside the walls of the hospital. I've had students tell me they learned more here in two weeks than they learned throughout nursing school."

Hammond said she and some of her fellow nursing students had a chance, while under the supervision of local doctors, to prescribe medicine and give patients shots. A few even got to perform Pap tests – something nursing students would not be allowed to do in the United States. "You have more autonomy than you do here," she says.

Students have even delivered babies during hospital visits. Biggan said they find out that it's not uncommon to see two moms and two babies in each twin-size hospital bed.

"I'd say there was about one doctor for every 30 patients at least," Grewing says.

Despite the differences, there is no place Biggan said she'd rather take her students. "After I went the first year, I fell in love with the people, the culture, everything," she says. ☆

Real-time training for nursing, respiratory care

Through this interprofessional education simulation exercise, the St. David's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Transport Team, the St. David's School of Nursing, and the Department of Respiratory Care held two simulation practices one week apart in November.

The St. David's NICU Transport Team received a call for assistance concerning a high-risk delivery and proceeded by special ambulance from St. David's Medical Center to the St. David's School of Nursing on the Round Rock Campus. Not until the transport team got to the School of Nursing entrance were they told this was a simulation exercise. The nursing students were not informed of the simulation and were selected to report to the simulation lab where the exercise was staged.

The NICU Transport Team worked alongside the nursing students to assess, stabilize and prepare the simulation newborn for transport to St. David's NICU. The exercise concluded when the team was ready to roll the transport unit out of the simulation lab. 📍

1. The 400-pound air/ground transport isolette is equipped with six IV pumps, three ventilators, nitric oxide and the ability to monitor invasive blood pressure. In the hands of a highly trained registered nurse and registered respiratory therapist, it has everything the team needs to provide exceptional care to the smallest patients anywhere, anytime.

1



3



2



2. More than five months in the making, the exercise lasted 50 minutes, with the patient's condition completely dependent upon the team's decision making. (From left) Dr. Steve Dekowski, Transport Team medical director; Timothy Farmer, Transport Team supervisor; Ryan Douglas, Sim Lab technical support; and Dr. Gregg Marshall, chair of the Department of Respiratory Care.

3. Katie Vaughn (left) and Thomas O'Higgins unload the transport isolette at Texas State University Round Rock Campus.



5



4

4. Thomas O'Higgins, EMT (left), helps to maneuver the transport isolette with Katie Vaughn, RRT-NPS (center) and Karen Golding, RNC (right).

5. St. David's Transport Team members Katie Vaughn (right) and Karen Golding (left) perform an equipment check prior to entering the Texas State School of Nursing Sim Lab.



7



6

6. Texas State nursing students Sarah Zipper (left) and Haley Ramirez work to stabilize a critical newborn with potential meconium aspiration.





8



7. Student Sarah Zipper determines the patient's need for advanced respiratory support.

8. Karen Golding RNC (right) from the St. David's Transport team works with Sarah Zipper to assess the next intervention.

9. St. David's Transport Team members and Texas State nursing students successfully work together to perform endotracheal intubation and surfactant replacement in an attempt to counteract the meconium aspiration.



9

Staying connected

Health Administration finds valuable links in online networking

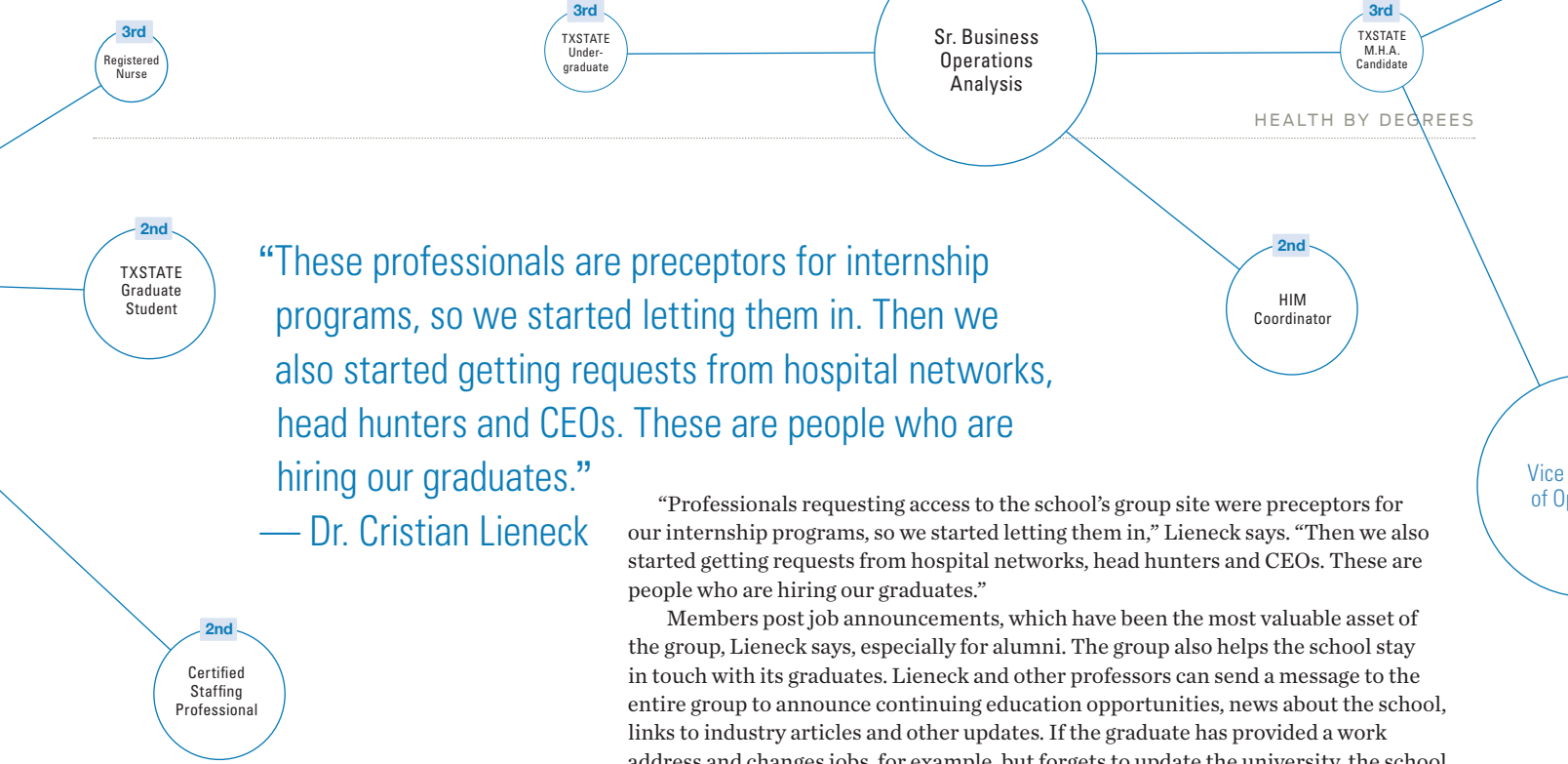
By Ashley Festa



Few professors commit lecture time to discussing personal social media accounts, but Dr. Cristian Lieneck makes it required study for healthcare marketing classes. Besides teaching students to market an organization's health services, Lieneck emphasizes the necessity of creating a personal brand to promote themselves. The social networking site LinkedIn forms the foundation for their brand.

"I tell them that they're always on stage," says Lieneck, assistant professor in the Texas State School of Health Administration. "How they market themselves, how they act in public, and their appearance on social media like LinkedIn – all that matters. It's not Facebook; it's a professional networking site."

He assigns a LinkedIn project for his students: create an account, populate the fields, upload a professional photo and write a detailed promotional LinkedIn profile and current position statement. Students are required to connect with relevant groups and industry professionals, as well as join the private Texas State School of Health Administration group. The group has more than 740 members since it was created in 2012, and they're not just students. Members also include alumni, professors, prospective students and business professionals who want to know more about what Texas State is doing for the healthcare industry.



“These professionals are preceptors for internship programs, so we started letting them in. Then we also started getting requests from hospital networks, head hunters and CEOs. These are people who are hiring our graduates.”
— Dr. Cristian Lieneck

www.LinkedIn.com
Texas State University School
of Health Administration

“Professionals requesting access to the school’s group site were preceptors for our internship programs, so we started letting them in,” Lieneck says. “Then we also started getting requests from hospital networks, head hunters and CEOs. These are people who are hiring our graduates.”

Members post job announcements, which have been the most valuable asset of the group, Lieneck says, especially for alumni. The group also helps the school stay in touch with its graduates. Lieneck and other professors can send a message to the entire group to announce continuing education opportunities, news about the school, links to industry articles and other updates. If the graduate has provided a work address and changes jobs, for example, but forgets to update the university, the school no longer has a way to keep in touch and share valuable information. With LinkedIn, alumni are never lost in cyberspace.

The School of Health Administration offers big benefits for alumni to stay connected. “We’re continuously using the site to blast out events,” Lieneck says. “We’re right in the middle of two large healthcare markets, Austin and San Antonio. There are lots of professional associations and always continuing education opportunities at the local and state level.”

“We’re posting events they might not be aware of if they don’t visit our website,” says Dr. Matthew Brooks, director for the School of Health Administration. “We try to get members involved with campus events and keep them updated about new positions and new degrees.” Brooks also hopes to build up alumni groups across the nation so Texas State’s Health Administration graduates can connect at events and conferences all over the United States.

Amber Rankin, a 2013 master’s graduate, uses LinkedIn daily to check for updates and connect with healthcare professionals at other companies. “I use the group for possible future career opportunities,” she says. “If I see someone who works in the same division or same department, I’ll message them and ask, ‘Who can I reach out to about this?’”

That strategy has worked for her. When she applied to a new position, she checked LinkedIn and realized she was already connected to someone in the same department. That connection provided the name of a manager, and she got in touch. “He gave me some pointers,” she recalls. “It’s a lot better to talk to someone directly than waiting for someone to reach out to you.”

Beyond alumni, the school also uses the group as a recruitment tool. When potential students send a request to join, they’re able to see activities going on at Texas State as well as important industry professionals connected to the group.

As for current students, Lieneck encourages new users to connect with healthcare organizations and institutions such as The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and other large health systems, especially where they might be interested in doing an internship or residency. Students are then able to discover more about the organization before they apply. The Health Administration group site benefits everyone involved – from prospects to alumni, as well as the university.

“People are communicating and networking professionally with each other, people who didn’t know each other before the group site happened,” Lieneck says. “My undergraduates are linking up with alumni who might be employed by an organization where the new grad wants to work. We’re working to strengthen that alumni chain.” 🌟

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- » In 2006, the complete curriculum was made available for web-based delivery. Students may complete the courses online while working in a healthcare related field.
- » Considered one of the 15 fastest growing occupations in the U.S. (Bureau of Labor Statistics).

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT BOOMING



Nation's move to electronic health records spurs need for tech-savvy workforce

By Carole Miller

Chances are pretty good that many schoolchildren, when asked what they want to be when they grow up, might respond with “firefighter,” “pilot,” or “movie star.” But it’s a safe bet that many of their school-aged contemporaries are unlikely to answer with “registered health information administrator.”

Jackie Moczygemba, chair of the Texas State Health Information Management Department, is aiming to change that. “No young child says, ‘When I grow up I want to work in health information management,’” Moczygemba says, but she says plenty of people are jumping into the field that has become one of the fastest growing in the nation, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Job growth through 2022 stands at 23 percent with the median annual salary at \$88,580.

“We get a lot of queries,” says Moczygemba. “Probably our most often asked question is about the job outlook, whether we offer our courses online and about the RHIA (registered health information administrator) exam eligibility. However, for those who are less familiar with our degree, we can easily spend 30 minutes or more talking about the HIM discipline and the many evolving career opportunities.”

In the late 1970s the program was named Medical Record Administration. The first students graduated in 1978. Renamed in 1993, it continues to grow, and to date more than 900 students have graduated from the Texas State program. It has evolved from typewriters and filing cabinets to industry software and network computers. The distance learning element has also grown considerably, with up to 50 percent of students taking online classes.

Paper medical records are being replaced with electronic health records (EHRs). And all those records are accruing on hard drives and in the cloud, awaiting organization and analysis. This has opened up a need for an entirely new, tech-savvy workforce to fill positions that, until very recently, didn’t exist.

In order to understand the world of health information management, one must understand its origin—and the role government regulation plays. The marriage between health records and government began in February 2009 when the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act was born with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

With the passage of the ARRA/HITECH legislation, healthcare providers for the first time were given a financial incentive to adopt electronic health records. In 2011, healthcare providers were offered financial incentives for demonstrating “meaningful use” of the electronic health records. The funding incentives will end beginning in 2015, and hospitals and doctors will be subject to financial penalties for failing to use these records.

“Interoperability is the new buzzword,” explains Moczygemba. “EHR systems should



My mom told me to be a nurse, but I don’t like blood or needles. I chose HIM because I’m analytical and detail-oriented so I thought it would be a perfect fit for me.”

— Cynthia Laws, TransLife Organ and Tissue Donation Services

be able to exchange information and to interpret the meaning of the information exchanged without any uncertainty. Furthermore, is the use of the EHR technology improving the quality of health care and increasing patient safety?

“It’s important to be efficient and collect data but we also need to use it in a meaningful way. Combine clinical data with computer science and it becomes a predictive science,” she says.

Included under the umbrella of health information management is “information governance,” which involves protecting patient rights and safeguarding sensitive information so private records remain private. These professionals are responsible for getting accurate information not only to the right person but for the right reason. And for many it is an opportunity to get involved in the healthcare field.

Cynthia Laws is a 2005 Texas State HIM graduate who works as the data quality manager for Florida-based TransLife Organ and Tissue Donation Services. Laws serves as a metaphorical guardian angel and go-between for organ donors and their recipients. She locates organs, goes over consent forms, analyzes data ensuring no one gets skipped and, of course, makes sure all the i’s are dotted and the t’s are crossed on the digital paperwork.

“My mom told me to be a nurse, but I don’t like blood or needles,” she laughs. “I chose HIM because I’m analytical and detail-oriented so I thought it would be a perfect fit for me.”

Her squeamish thoughts are shared by many others, particularly in the field of information technology, which is where the sub-category of Health Information Technology (HIT) careers fit like a glove. HIT refers to the literal framework used to digitally manage and exchange health information. With the explosion of electronic health records, IT professionals are in high demand—especially those focused on the technical side of developing tracking software and physically building and maintaining the hardware used to manage and store patient data. HIT professionals with IT backgrounds provide critical support.

It’s a bull market for HIM professionals today. In addition to a huge demand from office-based physician practices, hospitals, nursing homes, home health agencies, mental health facilities, vendors and public health agencies, the growth of managed care has also created additional job opportunities with HMOs, PPOs and insurance companies.

More than half of new HIM graduates with a bachelor’s degree start with salaries in the \$30,000 to \$50,000 range. After five years, many of those graduates earn up to \$75,000 annually. The Texas State bachelor’s degree curriculum prepares graduates for existing HIM roles as well as for those that continue to emerge. To keep up with the increasing demand for more qualified professionals, the department is developing a master’s program as well.

“This field has exploded. Companies look for candidates for leadership roles who possess these credentials,” says Moczygemba. “Our healthcare system is very complex and new roles in health informatics and information management are evolving.” ☆

For more information, visit www.health.txstate.edu/him/

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

- » 90% first-time and 100% overall pass rate on the licensure exam
- » U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 36% job growth through 2022

“

I can only hope to be as powerful as an influence as physical therapists that have impacted my life.”

Sean Buchner, former yoga instructor and PT patient, and first-year student in the DPT program



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My lifestyle revolved around health and fitness, and I had a friend in Austin who wanted me to move down. I had no prospects, but I got work as a PT tech at St. David's hospital in Austin.”

Russell Leighty, B.A. anthropology, third-year student in the DPT program

“

It brings comfort to know that in any area you are interested, there is someone highly qualified to teach you.

Joe Ivan Céspedes, first-year student in the DPT program



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MOVING UP IN GROWING HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

Doctor of Physical Therapy program draws students looking for second career

By Dan R. Goddard

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Health care, on the other hand, is a growing industry, and PTs are necessary wherever people are walking, sitting, aging or playing sports — in other words, everywhere.

Melissa Kaplan, a third-year student in the DPT program, is a former writer/editor

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I majored in physiology, and a light bulb went off in my head when I realized I could use that knowledge as a physical therapist.

Michael Fuentes, a third-year student in the DPT program, and former Marine



PHY
U.S.
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MARINE
LOGY

The aging Baby Boom generation has helped make physical therapy one of the fastest-growing professions in the United States. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a 36 percent increase in job openings through 2022. Factor in a median salary range of almost \$84,000 annually and it's no wonder many see physical therapy as a good choice for a career — even as a second one for many.

Melissa Kaplan, a third-year student in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Texas State University, worked as an editor in K-12 educational publishing as well as marketing and advertising copywriting. Her career switch resulted from a combination of pragmatism and inspiration, prodded by the uncertain employment prospects for writers and editors in the digital age.

"I didn't have the stability that I wanted," Kaplan says. "Health care, on the other hand, is a growing industry, and PTs (physical therapists) are necessary wherever people are walking, sitting, aging or playing sports – in other words, everywhere. It's hands-on; constantly evolving, teamwork-oriented, and hugely rewarding – and it can't be outsourced."

Dr. Barbara Sanders, professor and chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and associate dean of the College of Health Professions, says her students often become interested in PT because of their involvement in sports and fitness or because they have suffered an injury and had physical therapy. Older students are entering the program despite rising requirements to become a physical therapist.

"Physical therapy is a key piece of the health care puzzle and aging Baby Boomers are driving the increasing demand for PTs," Sanders says. "We only accept 40 students a year but we average 300 to 450 applications. About one in five are entering the program as part of a career change. While this is a rigorous, three-year graduate program, our students find physical therapy to be challenging and rewarding with excellent career possibilities."

Physical therapists collaborate with many other health professionals to ensure patients return to a healthy and productive life. While many work in hospital settings, they also practice in nursing facilities, rehabilitation and outpatient care centers, physician's offices, schools and other locations. Regardless of the setting, physical therapists work to optimize movement and function.

"Patients are used to taking a pill for their ailments, but we're the ones telling them 'you can do it' while they work out on machines or use other technologies," Sanders says.

The DPT program has replaced both the bachelor's and graduate PT programs at Texas State. The first DPT class graduated in May 2011. The university's DPT program is one of 13 in Texas and is designed for students who already have a bachelor's degree. Students must earn a DPT degree from a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education and pass a state licensure exam in order to practice.

In the last two years, the Warm Springs Foundation has provided \$40,000 in scholarships for Texas State DPT students. "Warm Springs has been very flexible and they have allowed us to extend scholarships to one or two first-

and second-year students," says Dr. Karen Gibbs, associate professor and chair of the PT scholarship committee. "Anything that we ask for, Warm Springs never seems to say no."

The Warm Springs Foundation was born out of the Gonzales Warm Springs Foundation for Crippled Children, founded in 1937. Each year, students from Texas State complete their clinicals at the Post Acute/Warm Springs Specialty Hospital in Luling, and at least six have returned to work there permanently, says Steve Spivey, director of clinical education at Texas State, and himself the hospital's former coordinator of clinical education.

Russell Leighty has a B.A. in anthropology and worked for 10 years at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. When he was injured while participating on a competitive swim team and received physical therapy, it led to his career change. "At the museum, I was under a lot of pressure to get a doctorate in anthropology," Leighty says. "My lifestyle revolved around health and fitness, and I had a friend in Austin who wanted me to move down. I had no prospects, but I got work as a PT tech at St. David's hospital in Austin and worked with some Texas State grads there as an assistant. I saw they really knew their stuff and decided to visit Texas State for an informal interview with Steve Spivey. We hit it off and he gave me good advice on what I needed to do to get into the program."

Spivey says older students coming from different backgrounds provide a positive mix for the DPT program. "The older students have more life experience, are more mature and often have a better perspective," Spivey says.

"I had a student with an engineering background who brought that knowledge to how the body worked. A student who worked in finance turned out to be an excellent clinic

director because she understood both the physical and business aspects. I had a dancer who really knew how to make the body move. Physical therapists also have to deal with a lot of emotional and social issues when working with patients, so broad life experience is a plus,” he says.

Michael Fuentes, a Marine who served in Iraq from 1999 to 2007, says his ‘aha’ moment occurred while he was watching physical therapists work with wounded warriors while he was volunteering at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.

“I majored in physiology, and a light bulb went off in my head when I realized I could use that knowledge as a physical therapist,” Fuentes says. “Texas State offers a well-rounded program that provides you with a lot of knowledge, which I found was not always the case in other schools. In your final year, you have to work at different hospitals and other facilities around Central Texas to get clinical experience so you get a taste of different settings where you can work.”

Growing up in the Rio Grande Valley, first-year student Joe Ivan Céspedes says he decided to go into physical therapy because of the negative impact of high obesity and diabetes rates, as well as inactive lifestyles that he observed in his hometown of Weslaco. He plans to return home and establish a clinic when he graduates.

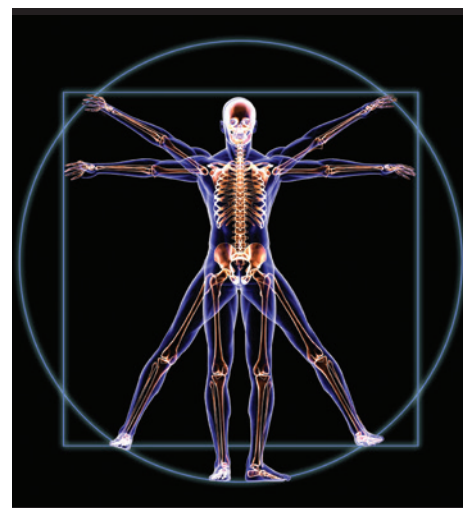
I felt Texas State had it all,” Céspedes says. “They have an on-site physical therapy clinic that provides students the opportunity to work closely with faculty in evaluating and treating patients; their curriculum is designed using a spiral approach in which course content is allowed to build over each semester for a comprehensive understanding of vital concepts; and many of the faculty are board certified specialists and maintain active clinical practices. It brings comfort to know that in any area you are interested, there is someone highly qualified to teach you.”

Texas State’s on-site clinic initially opened to serve anyone on campus for reduced fees, but through word of mouth, its reputation spread to the community. Many local residents now use the clinic, from the post-stroke elderly to pediatric patients with physical challenges, says Dr. Brenda Boucher, associate professor.

“We think it’s important for faculty members to maintain an active practice so they can teach what they preach,” Boucher says. “We practice in the on-site clinic and go out to other practices in the community. We teach the students in classes in the morning and then coach them in the afternoon when the on-site clinic is open. We want to be sure our graduates have a full skill set, so we work with all ages from the very young to the very old.”

A native of Canada, Sean Buchner was 13 when he suffered a traumatic brain injury after being struck by a car. He had to re-learn how to eat, walk and talk with the help of a team of therapists, including a physical therapist. He moved to Austin with his wife when she landed a teaching job, and then watched her work with a physical therapist after she suffered a severe leg fracture in a traffic accident. With a background in anthropology and as a yoga instructor, Buchner decided to become a physical therapist at 35.

“The clinic where my wife received outpatient therapy, as well as the clinic I volunteered for almost a year and a half, hosted many Texas State physical therapy students during their clinical placements,” Buchner says. “I not only heard of the reputation that Texas State physical therapy students had, but also observed the professionalism, outstanding quality of care and extensive knowledge that each one had. I can only hope to be as powerful an influence as the physical therapists that have impacted my life.” 🌟



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Texas State’s on-site clinic initially opened to serve anyone on campus for reduced fees, but through word-of-mouth, its reputation spread to the community.

*Dr. Brenda Boucher
associate professor*



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

- » Offers bachelor of science degree and both a master of arts and master of science degree
- » The program has evolved into training pathologists to work in schools, hospitals, rehab facilities and beyond.



Finding their **VOICE**

MANAGING STUTTERING IS GOAL OF INTENSIVE TWO-WEEK PROGRAM

By Julie Cooper

Some 68 million people worldwide — about 1 percent of the population — stutter. Unless you have had trouble saying what you wanted to say, you cannot imagine what it is like to stutter. Speaking can affect every aspect of your life.


“A person who stutters doesn’t have problems thinking up language or thinking up words. The trouble is getting the muscles to say the words. That is the place where the neurological difference exists,” says Texas State University Professor Farzan Irani. A native of Mumbai, India, Irani earned his master’s degree and Ph.D. in Communication Sciences and disorders at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Since joining the Department of communication disorders in 2010, Irani has held the two-week Comprehensive Stuttering Therapy Program (CSTP).



“Stuttering is lifelong. What the therapy aims to do is empower the client to be their own clinician. I like to give them the tools needed to help them,” he says. The end goal is for clients to better manage their stuttering. “What our program really focuses on is helping a person manage moments of disfluency; reducing the impact that stuttering has on their lives.”

Neurological difference

Irani says the understanding of stuttering has been rapidly evolving in the past 12 to 15 years. “Where once they thought of stuttering as being a psychological disorder where a person was afraid to speak, now they are actually identifying areas in



“Stuttering is lifelong. What the therapy aims to do is empower the client to be their own clinician. I like to give them the tools needed to help them.”

— Farzan Irani, assistant professor
Communication Disorders

the brain that are misfiring. So now we understand stuttering as being neurogenic or neurological, where there is a neurological difference in structure and function of the speech areas of the brain. It doesn’t affect a person’s thinking or language. They have the word, they have the thoughts just like anyone else. But the ability to formulate those thoughts into a speech stream gets impacted along the way.”

When the program began it was for adults, but the following year it was expanded to include adolescents from 12 to 18. Working each summer

with Irani is Eric Swartz, assistant professor in communication sciences and disorders at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Swartz and Irani met as students in Bowling Green’s doctoral program and have worked together on stuttering programs for nine years, the last four at Texas State.

Before beginning the program, Irani emailed every speech pathologist and speech program in Texas. CSTP is listed on the Stuttering Foundation web site (www.stutteringhelp.org). The program serves five clients, and each client gets one-on-one attention. Five graduate students are selected each summer to be part of CSTP. Student clinicians contact clients three weeks before the program begins to get baseline data. The 10-day program costs \$600 and includes 60 hours of therapy. Clients can stay on campus for an additional fee or stay in nearby hotels. The day is divided with group therapy from 10 a.m. to noon, and from 1 to 5 p.m. clients have individual sessions with student clinicians supervised by certified speech pathologists. When the clients return home there is follow-up from September through May via online video-conference technology.

Darlene Villarreal and Ziya Verjee are graduate students with CSTP this year. Both also work in off-campus placements – Villarreal in a public school and Verjee at a Central Texas hospital. Villarreal says working with clients was intense – four hours a day for 10 days. “I really liked everything we did. It was the best two weeks of my life working with clients. A lot of times people aren’t aware of what stuttering is or how it happens. We focus on the cognitive reasons it happens,” she says.

Verjee worked with a 25-year-old client who had several ‘avoidances’ in his speech. “I felt very comfortable with the adult clients,” she says.

Swartz, who is the CSTP clinical supervisor, supports the Texas State program because it helps clients feel better and learn a better way to handle stuttering. It is not a quick fix, “they don’t come in and walk out two weeks later cured,” he says. Swartz, who is a person who stutters, says the best part of working with CSTP is seeing how much progress the clients make, and seeing the expressions on their faces. He says the program addresses the “whole person,” unlike others that concentrate only on the person’s speech.

‘Fake’ stuttering

Clients work on activities such as reading out loud, talking on the phone and making speeches. Irani says the goal is to make stuttering shorter in duration. “A lot of time we are not in the clinic area. We are not sitting in the therapy room doing therapy,” Irani says. “They will go outside and talk to random people. They will ask questions about stuttering. They will ‘fake stutter’ sometimes, which is intriguing. Our clients will say ‘I already stutter,

why are you asking me to fake it?’ But the idea behind that is getting in control of the stuttering. When stuttering happens it is out of control. When you stutter on purpose you are in control, which is basically mental recalibration and it reduces the negativity associated with stuttering. So it frees up the brain to manage it better.”

Halya Lenard is a speech pathologist at a Kerrville hospital working primarily with pediatric patients. In 2011 she was among the first CSTP graduate students. Lenard began at Texas State as a bilingual education major, but switched majors to communication disorders after seeing her little brother work with his speech pathologist. The combination of counseling and forming strategies for managing stuttering were things that stand out for Lenard. “I really like the follow up we did into their regular lives,” she says.

CSTP clients have been as young as 12, and as old as 44. They come from inside and outside Texas. The common thread Irani sees is that the clients want to manage their stuttering. Does he think it is life changing? “Yes I think so – for some of them it is a whole new perspective,” he says. “That’s the kind of feedback I get from the clients themselves or from parents who have been through the experience.”

Among the cards and letters the professor has saved is one from Rose Waschek of San Antonio, writing about her son, Jonah:

New world opens

“While his stuttering has improved some, the more dramatic change has been his attitude toward it. He has made several comments during his first semester of college of how he talks now in a situation that he never would have before the two weeks he spent with your team. It’s as though a whole new world has been opened for him and he has no fear of walking into it.”

A military family, the Waschecks moved multiple times while Jonah was growing up, yet they had never met another person who stutters. His mother says public school speech pathologists were not equipped to deal with his disfluency. At the end of the program clients do a speech presentation. “I’ve seen him do presentations before, but what was nice – while he wasn’t perfectly fluent – you could tell he was relaxed and it was easy for him to communicate,” she says.

On the wall of Irani’s office is a poster showing famous people who stutter. Actors Emily Blunt and James Earl Jones, singer Carly Simon, newsman John Stossel, Vice President Joe Biden and athletes Kenyon Martin and Darren Sproles. “James Earl Jones is ‘Darth Vader.’ He is successful, but what does he have to do with me as a 12-year-old getting teased every day in class?” Irani asks.

“We don’t just tell them ‘this is how you manage your stuttering.’ We guide them to do things they didn’t imagine they would do. They leave here with a sense of confidence, that ‘I have done this and I can do this.’” 🌟

FAMOUS PEOPLE WHO STUTTER

Vice President Joseph Biden

Emily Blunt, actress

John Stossel, broadcast journalist

James Earl Jones, actor (voice of Darth Vader)

Chris Martin, singer Coldplay

Michelle Williams, singer/producer
Destiny’s Child

Tiger Woods, pro golfer

Jack Welch, former GE chairman

Darren Sproles, NFL running back

Julia Roberts, actress

Johnny Damon, MLB outfielder

Samuel L. Jackson, actor

Byron Pitts, ABC News journalist

Kenyon Martin, NBA all star

Winston Churchill, statesman/British
prime minister

Robert A. Heinlein, science fiction writer

Source: The Stuttering Foundation, www.stutteringhelp.org
National Stuttering Awareness Week is the second week of May

RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM

- » 16 applicants accepted into the program each year
- » U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 24% job growth through 2020

RADIATION THERAPY

STUDENTS IN PROGRAM BECOME 'THE CANCER EXPERTS'

BY MARIAH MEDINA

It was the last place she had expected to find someone who fully understood her major, but when Diana Davis, a 2010 graduate of Texas State's Radiation Therapy program, began the third day of sorority recruitment, she was paired with a young woman who would remind her of her purpose in her field of study.

"Before she could even talk I said 'most people don't know what radiation therapy is,'" Davis says. Then adds; "She goes 'Oh I know exactly what it is.' She all of a sudden started to cry and told me 'you have no idea how important what you do is, and how meaningful it is to someone with cancer.' She said 'I would know, I have cancer.'"

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center reports that more than 50 percent of people with cancer will undergo radiation therapy treatments. Since it began 14 years ago, Texas State's radiation therapy program has graduated more than 180 students. The Bachelor of Science in Radiation Therapy (BSRT) is a two-plus-two program where students receive two years of general education before applying to the two-year radiation therapy program. Dr. Ronnie G. Lozano chairs the program, which in the last two years has produced graduates with a 100 percent pass rate on the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) certification examination.

Lozano does not spare the truth when he stresses the difficulties of the program. Davis recalls Lozano's honesty when, as a freshman, she first inquired about the program.

"I remember Dr. Lozano saying 'the majority of you in here either will change your mind by the time it comes around to apply for the program, or may not be accepted if you let your grades fall,'" Davis says. "There's only 16 people who are

accepted per year for the program, and I remember thinking 'I'm going to get into this program.'"

Davis quickly realized that success in the program took not only intellect, but also a large amount of personal motivation. Today, Davis is the lead radiation therapist at Houston Metro Cancer Center.

Prior to admission, students must complete 40 hours of clinical observation. Students are also required to participate in Cancer Awareness Day, the "Be The Match" bone marrow registry drive and other cancer related events held in partnership with the Cancer Advocacy Movement for Colleges and Outreach.

"There's one thing I tell my group all of the time, I tell them 'you are the cancer group on campus, you are the cancer experts,'" Lozano says. "We teach you everything you need to know about the causes of cancer, what patients are exposed to—mesothelioma, asbestos, pipes and things like this. You become the expert on what the risks are on developing a cancer.

"So wouldn't it be wonderful to take you out of the classroom and start educating the campus? That's our mission, that's why Cancer Awareness Day is their first group function."

Lozano says the role of the radiation therapist in the treatment of cancer is to plan and administer the prescribed course of radiation to "diminish or eradicate the disease." The current trend in radiation therapy is what Lozano refers to as "targeted radiation therapy." This method of treatment entails treating smaller areas and treating with as high intensity as possible for short periods of time using technologically advanced machines. The aim is to treat the tumor while avoiding normal tissue.

"The field has become so computerized

and automated that students are seeing a lot less, doing a lot less, with less teaching moments than before," Lozano says. "Perfect example: today, you can set the patient on the table, hit this auto set up button—the table will move, the machine will turn, and everything will set up almost on its own."

Addressing the issue, Lozano and Kenneth Smith, director of the university's Virtual Reality Technology Lab, are in the process of developing virtual reality scenarios that will allow radiation therapy students to evaluate and practice current strategies and theories in the field. Phase 1 of the virtual system is completed and undergoing testing. "The goal of this project is to provide U.S. educators a tool and teaching strategies that bring deeper understanding to students by coaching higher order thinking," Lozano says.

"Ultimately, it will increase the overall treatment competency for graduating students as they become entry-level radiation therapists," he says. Once completed, Texas State will be one of two facilities in Texas with virtual reality capabilities for teaching radiation therapy.

Since its inception, the program has received many awards. The most recent is the 2014 Volunteerism Award from "Be The Match," operated by the National Marrow Donor Program. The award, given to the Kathy Soliz Radiation Therapy Outreach Program along with Lozano and clinical coordinator Dora Lopez, is something that Lozano attributes to the faculty's innovative teaching styles.

"The National Marrow Program is recognizing Dora, myself and our team for doing exactly this: taking students outside of their curriculum, doing something innovative and doing something that benefits the national marrow program," he says. 🌟



PINPOINTING THERAPY WITH VIRTUAL REALITY LAB

It might not be something out of the movie *Avatar*, but it could be close.

The Virtual Reality Lab is a new type of technology that allows users to walk through virtual environments in full scale. The lab, located in Derrick Hall, has facilitated the testing of new theories and current strategies in a controlled environment.

One focus of the lab is the development of radiation therapy training and of relapse and maintenance environment for addiction. The program uses a motion tracking system that allows users to interact with objects in the virtual world using a handheld device or a data glove.

The educational implications of the software and facility reach beyond radiation therapy and addiction management. Dr. Kenneth Smith is the director of the university's Virtual Reality Technology Lab and an assistant professor in the School of Social Work. He lists a wide range of research applications including active shooter training, social skill development and texting and driving.

Dr. Ronnie Lozano, chair of the radiation therapy program, hopes that the virtual reality lab will allow students to gather clinical training through the simulation of experiences relevant to the profession. The university's lab, one of two in the state, is expected to place Texas State at the forefront of using technology to change people, communities and policy.

According to Smith, the mission of the lab is to evaluate and comprehend how technology can impact a person's cognitions and behaviors. While the lab is still in its programming stages, anyone interested can schedule a tour by contacting the School of Social Work at (512) 245-6548. 📞



Texas State economic impact grows to more than \$2 billion

Texas State University's economic impact on the state of Texas grew to approximately \$2.2 billion annually in fiscal year 2013, more than double the amount recorded seven years earlier, according to an economic impact study released by the university.

The study was conducted by James P. LeSage, holder of the Fields Endowed Chair in Urban and Regional Economics in the Department of Finance and Economics in Texas State's McCoy College of Business Administration. "Recent enrollment growth of the university and growth in student spending has had a remarkable impact on the economy of the county, region and state," LeSage says.

The complete Economic Impact Study:
www.txstate.edu/prospectivflash/pdf/economic-impact-study-2014.pdf

HAYS COUNTY

\$1.1 billion **17,000**
ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT JOBS CREATED

REGION

\$1.6 billion **23,000**
ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT JOBS CREATED

STATE

\$2.2 billion **29,000**
ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT JOBS CREATED



Enactus in China

In October, the Texas State Enactus team traveled to Beijing, China, to compete in the Enactus World Cup competition. The Bobcat team beat out 518 teams in the United States to take part in the world cup. The Chinese team from North China Electric Power University was named the 2014 World Cup Champion.



Bobcats create children's book

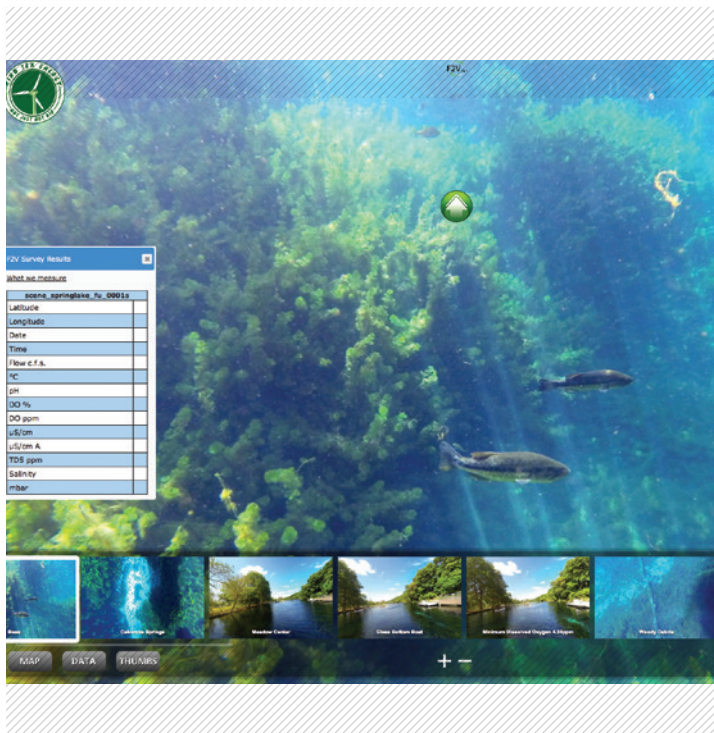
Texas State students Audrey Hannah Cull and Helena Frende have published a children's book, *Elliott's Gift* (Taylor and Seale Publishers, 2014). The children's book is told from the

perspective of Elliott, a second grader whose big brother is away at college. Elliott sees college as an alien world where nothing is the same as it is on Earth.

Cull is a senior business marketing and finance major. Frende, a sophomore art major, is the illustrator. Cull wrote the book with the help of some of the residents of Elliott Hall when she was a residential assistant. All the characters are named after residence halls at Texas State.

"My publisher wants me to do a series," Cull says. The plan is to take Elliott through sixth grade. "I really wanted to give back to Texas State and this is my way of doing it."

Elliott's Gift is available at the University Bookstore and from Amazon.com.



Virtual panoramic tour of Spring Lake launched by Flying FishViews

An innovative, virtual panoramic tour of Spring Lake at Texas State University has been released by Flying FishViews Inc. (F2V) with cooperation with The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment.

F2V's digital maps (called FishViews) offer a unique perspective for navigating waterways online. Using street view-style panoramic imagery, collected from the surface of the water and fused with other location-specific information like water quality data, F2V delivers a comprehensive visual and data-driven experience that enables science, recreation and conservation.

Available on the website F2V.me, the Spring Lake FishViews tour shows F2V's commitment to our waterways by demonstrating online access to digital maps of aquatic environments. The Spring Lake tour may be accessed at <http://F2V.me/spring-lake.html>.

Spring Lake is an iconic pool on the Texas State campus fed by more than 200 underwater springs originating from the Edwards Aquifer. The lake is believed to be one of the longest continually inhabited sites in North America. Spear points found there provide archaeological evidence that humans have lived in the area surrounding Spring Lake for more than 12,000 years. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, have designated Spring Lake and the upper 3.8 miles of the San Marcos River headwaters as critical habitat for eight endangered species, such as the Texas blind salamander and Texas wild rice.

17th
OF THE TOP
50
colleges for
Hispanic students

BestColleges.com has named Texas State University as one of the nation's "Top 50 Colleges for Hispanic Students" for 2014.

Texas State ranked No. 17 out of 50 institutions. The rankings are based on academics and the number of Hispanic students currently enrolled at each college.

10 years of Trade Up Days

Trade Up Days at Texas State began in 2005, two years after the university changed its name.

"A lot of students were still wearing shirts from other universities," says Jennifer Scharlach, alumni marketing officer. "We wanted to build pride."

The concept is simple: once during each long semester (fall and spring) students can trade in a T-shirt from high school or another college and get a free Bobcat shirt. For those without a shirt to trade, a \$5 donation is accepted.

When it began 10 years ago, 500 shirts were handed out. Last October, 1,500 T-shirts were distributed on the Quad. Some 200 shirts were earmarked for trade on the Round Rock campus. The donated shirts were delivered to the Texas State chapter of Net Impact, a non-profit group that works to provide clothing to the homeless community. The \$1,300 cash collected will be used for student programming and leadership development.



(class)views



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Texas State honored six new Distinguished Alumni during Homecoming Week in October. With these newest honorees, the Alumni Association and the university have now presented the most prestigious award to 186 graduates since the first was given to then-U.S. Sen. Lyndon Baines Johnson in 1959.

The latest honorees reflect the breadth of Texas State's academic programs and represent extraordinary contributions not only to their professions but to the civic and philanthropic arenas. While they may not be household names, they have gained success and leadership in their chosen fields, and have set high standards among their contemporaries in business, science, industry, entertainment, government, education, the military, literature, healthcare and sports.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
Awards Gala

SAVE THE DATE
11.6.2015

Advance reservations and
table sales are now available at
alumni.txstate.edu/gala.

TEXAS  STATE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

512.245.2371 | alumni@txstate.edu | alumni.txstate.edu



DR. PATRICK COX, '88

Among the nation's most distinguished historians, Patrick Cox specializes in 20th century American and Texas political history. His extensive contributions to the field include award-winning and critically acclaimed publications and documentaries on such notable Texas legends as Lyndon B. Johnson, John Nance Garner, Ralph Yarborough and Bascom Giles. The author of numerous articles and books, Cox brings history alive making it accessible, entertaining and informative.

Cox earned an M.A. in history from Texas State in 1988 and a Ph.D. in history from The University of Texas at Austin in 1996. Through his firm, Patrick Cox Consultants, he provides expertise in historical research, commentary, publications and historic preservation. He previously served as the associate director of the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at UT Austin. Additionally, his commitment to public service and volunteerism has benefitted organizations that include the Pedernales Electric Cooperative, the American Journalism Historians Association, the National Council on Public History, the Barton Springs-Edwards Aquifer Conservation District and the Wimberley Lions Club.

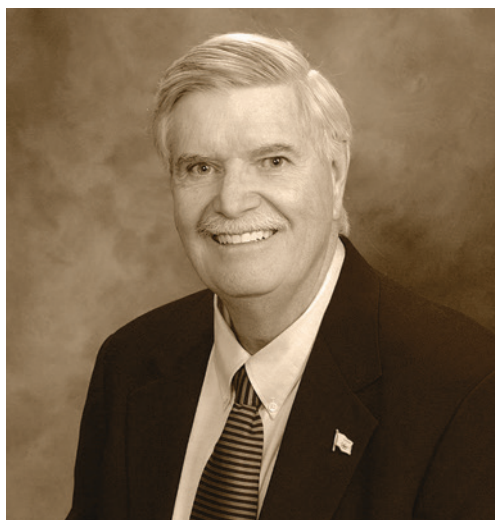
VERONICA MUZQUIZ EDWARDS, '86

Founder and CEO of San Antonio-based InGenesis, Veronica Muzquiz Edwards guides one of the largest and most successful workforce solutions corporations in the nation.

In honor of her leadership and national impact, *HispanicBusiness* magazine named Edwards one of the 50 most influential Hispanic business leaders in the country. In addition, Edwards has been named an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year and one of the Top 100 middle market CEOs in the nation by *ChiefExecutive* magazine.

She is a member of the Board of Trustees for the World Affairs Council, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the University of the Incarnate Word.

Edwards graduated from Texas State with a B.A. in journalism. She has a master's degree in business administration from the University of the Incarnate Word, where she is pursuing a doctorate of business administration. Her research interests include global chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear disaster preparedness in relationship to healthcare workforce planning.



ROBERT GROGAN, '70

From 1971 to 1992, Robert Grogan built a career in the Alaskan state government, lending his expertise to policies concerning oil and gas leasing, oil spill reparations and natural resource preservation. His influence developed legislation to protect and preserve the unique environment in Alaska.

After his retirement from state service, Grogan launched a second career as an artist and photographer. His work has been shown in galleries throughout the United States and in South Africa, where he spends a portion of each year living and working. In 2006, he was artist-in-residence at the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Wyoming.

His generous spirit is exemplified in his identification, development and encouragement of the talent of a budding South African artist. In the early stages of what eventually became a career for Alex Zinhanga, Grogan provided the materials and mentorship that opened doors for the young painter.

Grogan earned his bachelor's degree in business administration.



JOHN H. MCCALL, '70

In 1974, John Herschel McCall, a fourth-generation Texan, joined the family business, Armstrong McCall, an industry leader in hair care products. In 1986, he co-founded Farouk Systems Inc., a company that provides the professional beauty industry with the products that meet the underlying principles of education, environment and ethics. Farouk Systems has expanded distribution to more than 100 countries, and provided employment to more than 2,000 people.

McCall demonstrates his commitment to living by his motto — “Leave the world a better place than you found it” — through his contributions of time and financial assistance to such organizations as MD Anderson Cancer Center, Texas State University, The University of Texas and many more.

McCall graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1970 and furthered his education with a law degree from the University of Houston in 1972.

BRIG. GEN. JOHN E. MICHEL (RET.), '87

One year after graduating with a degree in political science, John E. Michel joined the Air Force. During his 26-year military career, he logged more than 3,300 hours as a command pilot and served in support of numerous operations in the Middle East.

As he advanced through the ranks, Michel developed theories and practical solutions for individual and organizational change, which put him at the wheel of several multi-billion dollar transformation efforts for the Department of Defense. His philosophies on resilience development and positive growth have been adopted by the Air Force and reported in the *Harvard Business Review* and *Fast Company*.

Michel has gathered the lessons he has learned from his noteworthy military career and translated them into inspirational messages about positive change that pertain to all readers from all walks of life in his book (*No More*) *Mediocre Me: How Saying No to the Status Quo Will Propel You From Ordinary to Extraordinary*. His second book, *Axioms from Afghanistan: Wartime Reflections on Life & Leadership* will be released soon.



DR. MELBA J. VASQUEZ, '72

Dr. Melba J. Vasquez, a native of San Marcos, was in the first generation of her family to attend college. She completed her bachelor's degree in English and graduate course work in counseling and guidance at Texas State University, and earned her Ph.D. in counseling psychology at The University of Texas at Austin.

She was the 13th woman to be elected president of the American Psychological Association, the world's oldest and largest organization of psychologists, and the first Latina to fill that role. Vasquez is the author of more than 70 journal articles and book chapters, and has served on the editorial boards of 10 journals.

Her contributions in advocacy, mentoring, scholarship and public service have been recognized with more than 40 national awards, including those from the American Psychological Association and the Association for Advancement of Psychology.





Once more, with feeling

Actor Marc Pouhé overcame kidney disease to reclaim his role as one of Austin's top leading men *By Michael Agresta*

When Marc Pouhé first developed symptoms of kidney failure, he was onstage. The 2009 production of *The Grapes of Wrath* at Austin's Zach Theatre used real dust to evoke the 1930's Dust Bowl. Initially, Pouhé (Poy-A) thought he was having an allergic reaction to the dust. Ever the committed actor, he channeled his discomfort into the role. "Any aches I had I used for my character. He was supposed to be in his 60s, so I put that into his walk," Pouhé says.

The week after the curtain went down, Pouhé quickly became very ill. He ended up in the hospital for a week, eventually diagnosed with chronic kidney failure. He was told that his immune system had turned against his kidneys and caused irreparable damage, perhaps due to an undiagnosed case of strep throat. Out of nowhere, his acting career—and his life as he knew it—was seemingly over. He was put on dialysis and added to a long list of people awaiting kidney donations.

"The time between dialysis and waiting to go to dialysis, making sure you're eating right, et cetera, was really lonely and mind-numbing," he says of this difficult time in his life. He filled the hours by building a website to chronicle his abbreviated career as an

actor. "The theory was, if I died, I wanted to have a record of the work I'd done."

As a mass communication student at Texas State, Pouhé had scored the leading role in *Six Degrees of Separation* in his third audition for a play. Next came another on-campus role as lawyer Billy Flynn in Chicago, which, in its way, helped pave the way to Pouhé's professional acting career. The play's director, Michael Costello, in the Department of Theatre and Dance, coached him on a monologue that Pouhé would go on to use for years afterward in auditions.

Many of those auditions were successful. Soon, Pouhé became one of the most recognizable faces in the Austin theatre world. From 2006-2009, he was nominated for four straight Austin Critics Table awards in the Best Actor or Supporting Actor categories, winning three times. He also appeared on popular television shows *Friday Night Lights* and *Prison Break*. A 2003 graduate of Texas State, Pouhé works as a regional marketing representative at Nexus Medical Consulting in Austin. He is also an accomplished artist and his work can be seen on his web site, www.marcpouhe.com.

Pouhé's diagnosis derailed him at his creative peak. For several years, he did not

act at all. His brother Jacques offered to donate a kidney, but because they were not a blood-type match they had to wait to arrange a "kidney swap" with two other donor-patient pairs whose blood types aligned. Eventually, the swap was successful.

"Without my brother's help, I wouldn't have been able to participate in that program," Pouhé says. "I owe him my life, and at least two other people owe him their lives as well, just as I owe two other people whom I've never met my life."

Slowly but surely, Pouhé has found his way back to the stage. His return culminated last year in his reprisal of the lead role in *Othello*, nine years after he first played the part for Austin Shakespeare. The production was extremely well-received. "It was overwhelming but in a good way, how happy everyone was, and how happy I was to see everyone after five years," Pouhé says.

In December Pouhé revisited another role he played before his diagnosis, starring in *Cyrano de Bergerac* at The Long Center for the Performing Arts in Austin. "I'm taking it easy now and taking the roles that actually mean something to me," Pouhé says. "Now I look at it not as something I'm striving to do or I have to do, but it's in my blood."



Benjamin Culpepper and his grandmother Elizabeth Culpepper



BY JULIE COOPER



For several years Bobby Kanz has funded two endowed scholarships at Texas State University — one through the McCoy College of Business Administration and the other through Athletics. Last year, when Kanz received an acknowledgement letter about the 2014 Bobby and Michelelee Kanz Endowed Scholarship, he was surprised by a blast from the past.

It turns out the recipient, senior economics major Benjamin Culpepper, was the grandson of Archie Culpepper, a familiar fixture in Kanz's life. "He (Archie) was my sixth grade Texas history teacher," Kanz says. "He was one of those teachers everybody liked. He was easy to get along with and everybody felt at ease with him." Kanz fondly recalls Archie Culpepper as the teacher at Goodwin Primary (now Goodwin Frazier Elementary in New Braunfels) who took charge of the boys during organized recess. "He always had to be in the picture. He would throw a ball real high; he would call it 'the dew-drop ball.'"

Archie Culpepper died on Oct. 9, 2006, at the age of 70. Born in Stockdale, his family moved to New Braunfels when he was a young child. He received his bachelor's degree from Texas State in 1959 and was a teacher for 36 years, primarily with the Comal ISD. He was also "The Voice" of the Canyon Cougars football team for 25 years. His survivors include his wife of 52 years, Elizabeth; sons Craig, James and Bobby; daughter Linda; and grandchildren.

It only took Archie Culpepper one summer working for the highway department to realize he wanted a college education and a better job, his wife recalls. While studying at Texas State he worked the late shift at a nearby mill to provide for his family. The young couple, who married in high school, became parents by the time Archie Culpepper graduated with his bachelor's degree in education.

"He was so good and he loved kids," says Elizabeth Culpepper. "He loved doing what he did." Goodwin, which opened in 1959 for grades one through eight, was Archie Culpepper's first teaching assignment. It is where he also coached girls' volleyball and basketball and drove a school bus to make extra money, his wife says.

That her husband made a lasting impression on one of his students is no surprise to Elizabeth Culpepper. She tells a story about the time her daughter-in-law was stopped for speeding near Kenedy. When the state trooper learned of her family ties to Archie Culpepper he told his

personal story beginning: "If it wasn't for that man ..." A speeding ticket wasn't issued.

Kanz especially remembers the extra attention that Archie Culpepper gave to youngsters who transferred from the one-room school at Sattler. "Archie took a lot of extra time with all of us," he says. "I remember he would say, 'you're going to catch up, don't worry.'"

Kanz recalls his teacher talking about his alma mater. "He said it's not just a teachers college — it has a lot of things going for it." Kanz was the first in his family to attend college, graduating in 1971 with a degree in business. Today, he is the president of Cierra Pipe Inc. in Houston. His wife, Michelelee also attended Texas State and it's where their daughter, Jennifer Walker, and son-in-law, Kurt Walker, both graduated in the late '90s.

Benjamin Culpepper's thank-you letter really hit home with Kanz. The senior wrote that he graduated from Canyon High School and that "my grandfather and my hero, Archie Culpepper, graduated from Texas State." He also cited his experiences managing the Student Recreation Center and as vice president of the Student Economics Association.

Archie Culpepper spent his final teaching years at Canyon and Smithson Valley High School. He also worked in real estate for 30 years where he did some deals with Kanz. Benjamin Culpepper says people still tell him that his grandfather, as a real estate agent, "was *too* nice."

Texas State ties run deep in the Culpepper family. Craig Culpepper, and his wife, Kimbra, are also Bobcats. Granddaughter Devin graduated with an education degree in 2013 and teaches fourth grade in Waco.

Kanz doesn't really know how many Canyon students Archie Culpepper influenced but he feels certain that there are many. "It touches home. You say 'gosh, here is Archie, the guy that helped you and here is his grandson,'" he says. And paying it forward is one thing that Bobby and Michelelee Kanz can do.

Keller on track leading Segway into more markets

By Natalie Chandler

As president of Segway Inc., Rod Keller oversees an electric personal transportation company that 6 million people use to see cities all over the world. But years before the veteran executive joined the New Hampshire-based company, Keller was a student at Texas State University and, according to him, not a very good one.

"In the first part of my college career, like a lot of students, I didn't take college very seriously and I didn't make the best grades," Keller says. He changed his focus following an offshore job out of Morgan City, La. When he returned to San Marcos a few semesters later, Keller befriended his professors as he changed his major from accounting to marketing. He graduated in December 1981 with a degree in business administration and took a job in Houston a month later.

A native of San Antonio who grew up in Austin, Keller held executive positions with DirectTV, Linksys, Toshiba America Information and other companies before joining Segway in May 2013. He has a 21-year-old son who transferred to Texas State this semester from the University of Alabama.

Segway, which brands itself as "the leader in personal, green transportation," launched the first models in 2002. The Personal Transporter (PT) is a familiar fixture for tourism in cities around the world. Segway has expanded with the next generation of products moving to business logistics and security.

At Segway, Keller's goal is to find opportunities to leverage its product into more markets. The company currently tracks 20 percent growth year over year, with the business growing much faster in Europe. The company is building a larger sales organization in the United States and expanding into Latin America.

"The market for electric vehicles is very young and is growing, but is fragmented," he says. "We put a team in place to help us expand our vision of being the largest electric transportation company in the world. I expect we'll be able to grow double digits in a few years. As we add more products, you'll see us grow even faster."

Keller describes Texas State as "the approachable school" that helped him climb the ranks of the business world. "I think one of the biggest advantages that Texas State has over others is the diversity of students that come from many rural parts of the Southwest," he says. "Had I gone to an Ivy League school, I would have expected to have had a harder time relating to a much bigger cross section of America. If you're ever going to be in a leadership role, it's important that people are able to relate to you, because if they can't, it will be hard for them to follow you."

As a longtime member of the McCoy College of Business Administration Advisory Board and a new member of the Texas State Development Foundation Board, Keller returns to campus on a regular basis to mentor students. His most recent talk gave students "a list of 25 things I wish someone would have told me, a lot of things I didn't think they would learn in school."

Among his suggestions: Never pass up a public speaking opportunity, "Because you never know who in that audience could influence your career at some point." Also, start thinking in your early 30s where you want to end up in your career. If living in a certain area is important, "find a company in the industry in the city where you want to be," he says.

"Even if your opportunity to work for them isn't in that city, if you do a great job, you will ultimately wind up at headquarters."



"Had I gone to an Ivy League school, I would have expected to have had a harder time relating to a much bigger cross section of America. If you're ever going to be in a leadership role, it's important that people are able to relate to you, because if they can't, it will be hard for them to follow you."

Rod Keller (B.B.A. '81)

New legacy born on baseball diamond

Studdard bucks family tradition, becomes Bobcat

By Raúl A. Flores

Family trips down Interstate 35 would take the Studdard family of Buda through San Marcos, prompting mom, Holly, to point out Texas State University and remind her oldest son, Granger, that it was her alma mater. “I would tell him ‘that’s where mom went to school,’ ” Holly says. It was a subtle attempt to get Granger interested in the university.

“But for him, there was no way he was going to go to ‘mom’s school,’ ” she says. He had other plans. He was going to be the first Studdard to play baseball at The University of Texas. His dream was to keep the family name going at UT because Studdards and Longhorns are synonymous in the sports world.

Things have a funny way of working out. Granger is a sophomore majoring in Construction Science & Management and carving out his path as a rising star for the Texas State baseball team.

Five Studdards, including Granger’s dad, Robert – a tight end from 1982 to 1984, all donned burnt orange and football pads for the Longhorns. The long line of Studdards at Texas includes Granger’s uncles David and Les Studdard, who played from 1974-77 and 1977-80, respectively. David, an offensive tackle, went on to play nine years with the Denver Broncos; and Les, a center, spent time with the Kansas City Chiefs and the Houston Oilers in the early 1980s.

Granger’s first cousin, Kasey Studdard, starred at UT from 2003 to 2006 and was drafted by the Houston Texans, where he played offensive guard from 2007 to 2012. Howard Fest, a great uncle on the Studdard side, played for legendary coach Darrell Royal at Texas from 1965 to 1968 and went on to play professionally for the Cincinnati Bengals and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Granger did inherit an undeniable athletic ability. He grew up playing soccer, but by fifth grade his attention turned to baseball. By his senior year at Hays High School in Buda, he was earning all-district honors as an outfielder who batted .406, guiding the Rebels to the Class 4A regional semifinals.

Texas State assistant baseball coach and recruiting coordinator Jeremy Fikac says he was aware of the Studdard family legacy at UT and the challenges he faced in swaying Granger to become a Bobcat. “I knew who his dad was and I knew who Kasey was,” Fikac says. “We started recruiting him early and just slowly built a really good relationship with him.”

That recruiting process is what ultimately convinced Granger to pick Texas State. Granger said his mom may not be vocal about his decision, but he knows there is some school pride there. Holly Studdard earned her bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1988 from Texas State. As for his father and the rest of Studdards, they didn’t object to his passing up the opportunity to play at Texas.

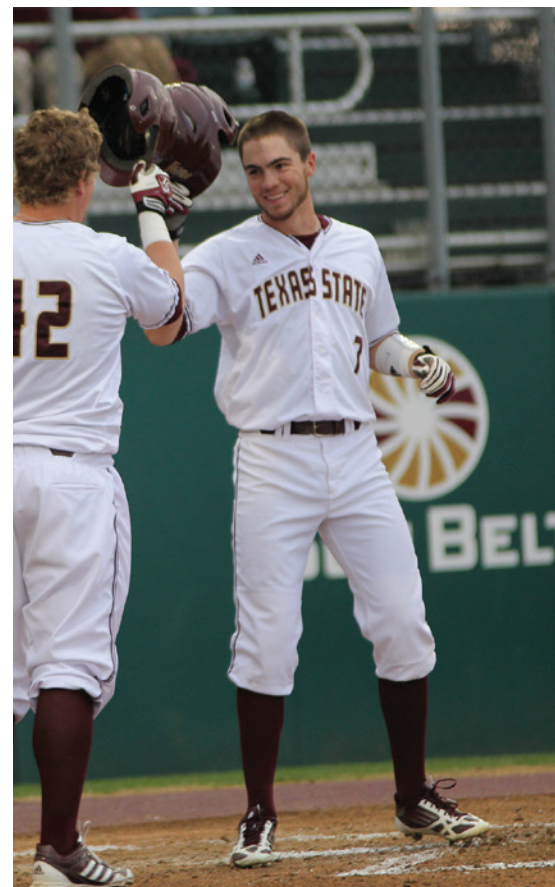
“It definitely made mom happy,” Granger says. “All she’s heard is Texas this and Texas that all the time. When you grow up with that many athletes, everything is a competition. They certainly gave me the competitive spark. But they’ve also kept me driven to be the best.”

That drive has led to success on the diamond that would make all the Studdards proud. As a freshman, he led the Bobcats in home runs with six and was second on the team with 35 RBI. He had a stretch in the season where he made several clutch plays, including a game-winning hit and a walk-off homer.

Those late-game heroics sparked his own social media hash tag, #grangerdanger. Over the summer, he followed up his stellar season by playing for the Santa Barbara Foresters in the California Collegiate League, where he led the team with 49 RBI and earned a spot in the league’s All-Star Game.

“My uncles and cousin have always encouraged me,” Granger says. “It’s a sense of pride to be a Studdard. You try to live up to what they did. You try to be as good or better. Now, hopefully more Studdards will start playing baseball.”

And it could be a baseball family legacy that is rooted at Texas State.



“When you grow up with that many athletes, everything is a competition. They certainly gave me the competitive spark. But they’ve also kept me driven to be the best.”

Granger Studdard

FOLLOWING HIS FAITH

JOHNSON'S CAREER ENCOMPASSES RELIGION,
SERVICE TO COUNTRY AND HIGHER EDUCATION *By Tammy Valentine*



A career reference guide and the faith to follow it steered Ronald Angelo Johnson to Texas State University as a student. It's also what brought him back to the university many years later as an assistant professor of history. And while Johnson's latest research on Haitian-American diplomacy reveals opportunities lost, it represents a stark contrast to his own professional path. Without his faith and Texas State, his life may have taken a very different turn.

Johnson recently published *Diplomacy in Black and White: John Adams, Toussaint Louverture, and Their Atlantic World Alliance*, which Louisiana State University historian Nancy Isenberg describes as "a fascinating and original study of diplomacy across the color line."

Since 2010, Johnson has taught U.S. diplomatic and religious history. "Dr. Johnson is a very gifted teacher," says Mary Brennan, chair of the Department of History. "There aren't many lecturers that can capture the attention of 350 students in a lecture hall. He can do that. But he also takes a real interest in every student." He has received the International Studies Professor of the Year Award and the university's Student Foundation of Excellence Award.

The youngest of nine children from a working-class family in Lufkin, Johnson's parents taught him a strong work ethic, but college was considered out of reach. After high school, he enlisted

**"WORKING FOR THE CIA WAS EXHILARATING.
THE PEOPLE WERE THE MOST MOTIVATED
INDIVIDUALS I'D EVER MET."**

— RONALD ANGELO JOHNSON

in the Air Force to fund his education. He served during Desert Storm, where he learned to appreciate other cultures while posted in Saudi Arabia. He also supported local churches during his service in the Middle East. "We had people from 26 nations, all with a common goal," Johnson says. This cultural exchange helped him make a critical decision.

Won over by Texas State

As his active military service drew to a close, Johnson began leafing through books on potential career paths. "I saw 'foreign service' and decided that's what I was going to do," he says. "I had been praying for God's will for me, and I believed pursuing a foreign service career was it. Never mind that I needed a master's degree, or that I had not yet been to college, or that I needed to speak another language. I believed God wanted me to do this."

Johnson was accepted to Texas State and Baylor, and he decided to visit San Marcos first. "I did not make it to Baylor," he says. "The people here embraced me; this was where I needed to be."

The Center for International Studies faculty and staff understood the demands of a first-generation college student, which helped Johnson make his decision. "I didn't have a safety net. This school invested in me and cared about me. I am a product of what they did."

"My parents kept wondering when I was going to get a job," he laughs. During his junior year at Texas State, Johnson began an internship as a political analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency. "Working for the CIA was exhilarating," he says. "The people were

the most motivated individuals I'd ever met." One of Johnson's favorite memories was writing for CIA's Presidential Daily Brief during the administration of President Clinton. "We would sit and argue over one word," he says. "But that briefing could help shape our foreign policy, so it was important that we say exactly what we meant."

He received a bachelor's degree in international studies and was accepted into the graduate program at Johns Hopkins University. After earning his master's degree, Johnson realized his dream of entering the foreign service with the U.S. Department of State. He was assigned to Naples, Italy, to train for his first post as a Foreign Service Officer (FSO). On Flag Day, the traditional day for the ceremony to announce an FSO's first overseas posting, only two flags remained "and it was down to another person and me. They announced that (person's) posting, and the only flag that was left was Luxembourg. I couldn't believe that a guy from Lufkin, Texas, was getting this assignment."

Europe to Africa

Six months later, fluent in French, he began serving as a U.S. diplomat. He worked with Danish, German and French companies on 9/11 to verify the safety of their employees at the World Trade Center. A fond memory from his time in Luxembourg was visiting the royal palace in a white tie and tails for an audience with the grand duke. At his second post, in the central African nation of Gabon, he and his wife Colette didn't live in the community as they had in Luxembourg, but in a compound because of security concerns. Johnson was deeply affected by the poverty. "We were invited to a local film director's home, and it had a dirt floor," he says. "I felt so guilty because he had probably spent his entire month's salary on food for us."

Although advancing in his diplomatic career, Johnson says, "I began to feel a rumbling in my spirit." He left the foreign service and enrolled at the Boston University School of Theology, the alma mater of the icon who influenced his life, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Johnson served multicultural churches in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Higher education beckoned once again, and Johnson enrolled in Purdue University to pursue a doctorate in history. He learned a valuable lesson while working on his dissertation. "My original story centered on how religious beliefs affected early American diplomacy, but I found out pretty quickly that writing about the Christian faith was the communication form of the day and really didn't reflect religious views. I started over and wrote about the story in front of me."

While at Purdue, he drew the attention of his alma mater. "Texas State inquired about my interest in a position. I tried to play it cool, but I was thrilled!" he says. "I couldn't believe it. God's providence was leading me back to where I started. I wonder sometimes what would have happened if I had visited Baylor first?"

The history classes Johnson teaches include American Foreign Policy, Religion in America and African American History. He focuses on giving students the encouragement given to him during his student years at Texas State. "There are still a lot of first-generation college students in my classes," Johnson says. "I try to instill in them the love of learning that my professors instilled in me."

Johnson believes in teaching students to be critical thinkers. "They should be willing to take risks and be uncomfortable," he says. "Education is about conversation; my students should be willing and able to take the conversation further."



1 Edward Perez

1 Edward 'Eddie' Perez '14

Dallas, is now a senior accounting executive with Robert Half Technology, specializing in staffing IT project professionals.

2 Julie Wisdom-Wild '06

San Antonio, has been named San Antonio Business Journal's 2014 Woman of the Year. She is the CEO of Alpha Home Inc., a non-profit treatment center for chemically dependent women and men.

Kyle Loeper '06

Austin, has been named opening senior sales manager for the JW Marriott Austin, the largest JW Marriott in North America. Loeper has worked for White Lodging Services Corp. for eight years and is a four-time winner of the company's Chairman's Club Award. He was previously senior sales manager at the Westin Austin at The Domain.

Brooke Cox '05

Buda, is the owner and director of operations at Bronko Box, recently named one of the 15 Most Innovative Companies in Austin by Austin Monthly.

Aaron Barton '04

San Antonio, has been named partner in the law firm of Goode, Casseb, Jones, Riklin, Choate & Watson. His practice includes litigation, appellate, and transactional work for the firm's clients. Aaron is also an adjunct professor at St. Mary's University School of Law.



2 Julie Wisdom-Wild

Yamilet Medina Lopez '01 & '08

Los Angeles, was featured on a web site, *Careeranista* - Heels of Success, about her work with the University of Southern California. She is an associate director of admission at USC, specializing in multicultural recruitment. Read the blog here: <http://bit.ly/1o9KKZR>

Alicia Patten Williams '00

Chandler, Ariz., has been elected vice president alumnae II for Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity's National Council. ZTA is the second-largest women's Panhellenic organization in the nation.

Brian K. Walker '00

Fort Worth, is the first judge advocate officer instructor at the Air Force Officer Training School's Commissioned Officer Training (COT) School at Maxwell AFB, Ala. He is an Air Force Reserve member and owns The Walker Law Firm in Fort Worth.

3 Chris Barron '95 & '99

Driftwood, was named volunteer fire chief of the year 2014 at the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC). Winners are selected for their dedication and leadership in fire and emergency services. The award was presented at the IAFC's 2014 Fire-Rescue International conference in Dallas. Barron serves the Manchaca Volunteer Fire Department. He is the executive director of the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association.



3 Chris Barron

Jennifer Dodd '99

San Antonio, has joined KENS-TV as an assistant news director. She previously worked in Victoria as news director for the Victoria Television Group, as morning anchor on the NBC affiliate in Green Bay, Wis., and for KSAT-TV in San Antonio.

Jereme Phillips '96

Gulf Shores, Ala., has been named Project Leader for the Gulf Coast Refuges Complex, a division of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The complex is made up of Bon Secour, Mississippi Sandhill Crane and Grand Bay refuges.

Paul Illich '87

Lincoln, Neb., was selected president of Southeast Community College (SCC) by a unanimous vote of its board of governors. He was previously vice president for research, planning and information technology at McLennan Community College in Waco. SCC serves a 15-county area of southeast Nebraska with three campuses.

4 Randall Prince '88

Lubbock, has been appointed assistant director/chief of the Texas Rangers. He began his career at DPS in 1989 as a Texas Highway Patrol trooper in Navasota. In 2005, Prince moved to Lubbock to serve as a captain and major of the Texas Rangers, before being named Region 5 regional commander in 2011.



4 Randall Prince

Prince is also a graduate of the 216th FBI National Academy and of Class XXXII of the Governor's Executive Development Program.

Pat Obi, '85

Hammond, Ind., has published *We Must Change the Way We Live*, a reflective perspective of the value of financial prudence and advanced education in a changing world. Obi is the White Lodging Endowed Professor of Finance in Hospitality and Tourism Management and director for the M.B.A. Executives program at Purdue University Calumet.

5 David Olson '85

Houston, was appointed president of Qv21 Technologies, an oil and gas company. He previously was the global leader of oil & gas industries for IBM and held executive positions with Fuel Quest, Deloitte & Touche, Oracle and KPMG. He also chairs the McCoy College of Business Administration Advisory Board.

Darryl Metcalfe '82

Katy, was inducted into the Texas High School Soccer Coaches Hall of Honor. Currently a teacher and Social Studies department chair at Seven Lakes High School, he retired from coaching in 2010 with more than 400 wins, 15 district championships and two state tournament appearances.



5 David Olson



6 Vera Bumpers

6 Vera Bumpers '79

Houston, has been named Chief of Police for METRO, the Houston metropolitan transit authority. A veteran of 30 years with the agency, she is the first female chief of police and the agency's first African-American police chief.

Randy Safady '78

Irving, has been listed in Becker's Hospital Review's "150 Hospital and Health System CFOs to Know." Safady has served as CHRISTUS Health's executive vice president and CFO since 2011. Safady also serves on the Texas Health Association Adhoc Waiver and Medicaid Reimbursements Committee and is a member of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA), American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants.

T.J. Mills '77

Sealy, has been inducted into the Texas High School Coaches Association Hall of Honor. As head football coach of Sealy High School, he has had a career record of 196-78-0, and has won four state championships.

Jay Box '76

Versailles, Ky., has been named president of Kentucky Community and Technical College (KCTC). He previously served as chancellor of the KCTC System. Box serves on numerous

state and national advisory councils including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's National Advisory Group on Financial Aid, the American Association of Community College's (AACC) Sustainability Education and Economic Development Task Force, the Southern Regional Education Board's Commission on Career and Technical Education and the Aspen Institute's Innovation in Higher Education Working Group.

Bob Covey '69

Cypress, has been re-elected to a one-year term on the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Board of Directors, representing TASB region 4F. Covey retired after 35 years as vice president of sales for American Alloy Steel Inc. Covey also has served as secretary, vice president and president of Texas State University Alumni Association. He served as chair on the Texas State College of Education Alumni Advisory Board from 2007-2014.



**Send your Class Notes
contributions to:**
hillviews@txstate.edu

IN REMEMBRANCE



David Gish, (M.S. '90) of San Marcos, Texas State athletic trainer died Sept. 22 after a battle with cancer. Gish had been a member of Texas State's athletics training staff since 1990, serving as the head athletics trainer since 1998. He also was in the second year of a four-year term and first year as president on the executive board of the Southwest Athletics Trainers Association. Born June 26, 1962, Gish came to Texas State after serving as the athletics trainer at San Marcos High School for four years and as an assistant athletics trainer at UL Lafayette. He is survived by his wife, Karen, and two children, Madison and Hayden. A scholarship endowment has been created in Gish's name to support athletic training students.

Billie L. Baker Stanton, (B.S. '39) of Annadale, Va., a former Defense Department program manager and veteran of World War II, died Dec. 20, 2013. Born Billie Loree Baker in Fort Worth, she served in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and the Women's Army Corps. She was a captain in the Air Force Reserve until 1956. Stanton began her civilian career at Kelly AFB in San Antonio. She moved to Washington in 1969 as a management and inventory analyst with the Naval Air Systems Command. Survivors include her husband Lloyd W. Stanton Jr.; children Linda Hammon of New Braunfels, Brian M. Ward of Vienna, Va., Robert L. Stanton of Brooklyn; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Big gifts for small town high school

Bobcats Jesse and Betty Luxton focus on helping students

By Alex Dominguez



Jesse and Betty Luxton have traveled across Africa, Portugal, Spain, Italy and Jordan. They have visited Russia, Pakistan, China, Southeast Asia, Iran and Antarctica. Their explorations have taken them to the Mediterranean, Burma, India, Nepal and Tibet. Each time they return from one of their adventures, the Luxtons give thanks for the place they call home.

"I never land in this country that I am not overcome with the gift that I was given by accident of birth – I was born in America," Jesse Luxton says. "We grew up in America where if you would work hard and you had that piece of paper that we got from Southwest Texas State College, there were opportunities to be had. We lived the American dream."

Officially, the "piece of paper" that the poor boy born in Uvalde and the middle-class girl raised in Killeen earned were a business degree and teaching certificate, respectively. While Betty Luxton never utilized her credentials in the classroom, she became a successful travel agency owner in Mississippi. Jesse Luxton worked as a corporate CEO and once they knew they were ready to retire, these world travelers knew where they were planting their next stake – Leakey, a Texas Hill Country hamlet with a population of 434.

It was a move that made sense. Jesse Luxton spent summers in Leakey, working on his grandmother's Angora goat ranch and Betty Luxton's family lived in San Marcos and Salado. So they built a home on land adjacent to what was once his family's land

and readied themselves for the next phase in their lives.

“In two years, my family will have lived on this land for 100 years,” Jesse Luxton says. “When we got home . . . we understood how fortunate we were to have had the opportunities we had. Having no children, we knew there was no reason to die with any money in the bank.”

“We looked around here and there was no place that we could think of that needed help more than the school and kids here in Leahey,” Betty Luxton says. So, the Luxtons started giving back via scholarships.

It was 1999 or 2000, when they delivered two \$4,000 scholarships to graduating Leahey ISD seniors. Their goal: To help the students from this small town move beyond their single campus district and into vocational and state colleges and productive careers beyond. Since then, the couple has recruited help in their efforts, and with that help they were able to provide more than \$100,000 to seven graduating seniors in 2014.

The Luxtons are doing their philanthropic best to help their alma mater, too. In a combined effort with the McCoy Foundation they have been able to arrange a contribution to provide scholarships in the McCoy College of Business Administration. The Luxtons are also Texas State “Heroes,” those who have given \$1 million or more to the university; and are members of the Guardian Society with a planned gift established for the university. In addition, they are supporting the university’s Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education and establishing a gift for the Betty A. Luxton Graduate Research Program Quasi-Endowment for the School of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Of their 12 scholarship recipients at Texas State, 11 completed their bachelor degrees. Two have finished master’s programs and one, who graduated summa cum laude, is pursuing a master’s degree in communication disorders.

“One of the reasons we want to help is that our government — state and federal — does not do enough to educate and support the children of this country,” Jesse Luxton says. “It’s a crime that these kids graduate with the debt that they do. This is the strongest nation in the world and the only way to keep it that way is to educate our children. Every generation should be better than the generation before them. We are laser focused on helping educate our students to compete in this new high-tech marketplace. This will ensure that our nation stays economically strong and therefore we will have the wherewithal to continue to lead the world.”

The criteria for the scholarships has evolved through the years, just as the amount of scholarships has grown. When the Luxtons first began their efforts, they looked to Betty’s mother, Wilma Smith, for advice. A former homemaking teacher in Killeen, Smith graduated from Texas State in 1941. Betty’s sister, Peggy Hilburn, a 1973 graduate, taught school for 27 years and retired from San Marcos CISD after 20 years.

“When we started all of this, my mother’s experience and accumulated knowledge of who to support played a role in who we supported,” Betty Luxton says. “She’s the one who told us, ‘In my experience, the A students are not the ones who always do well in life. I find that the average students do better in real life.’” Because of that advice, the Luxtons consider applications from A to C students. Financial need plays a large role in their consideration.

When students express interest in the scholarship during their junior year in high school, Jesse Luxton sits and builds a budget with them for their first year of college, so they know what expenses they can expect. He counsels each to make sure the path he or she wants to pursue has viable employment opportunities at the end of the educational path. While they don’t push Texas State as a

“ We are laser focused on helping educate our students to compete in this new high-tech marketplace. This will ensure that our nation stays economically strong and therefore we will have the wherewithal to continue to lead the world.”

— JESSE LUXTON

school choice, the Luxtons are happy when a student opts to become a Bobcat. “This school nurtures these kids,” he says.

“Once the student is in college, they provide us with their transcripts and registration for the new semester,” Jesse Luxton says. “I am in touch with 17 kids right now and if there is a problem, we give frank and honest criticism and direction. I tell them, ‘We worked hard for this money, we are sending you to school and giving you our money, so we need you to work just as hard.’”

The degrees they have helped cultivate include biology, chemistry, medicine, criminal justice, finance, marketing and social work. Their college/vocational graduation rate stands at 60 percent.

“We are trying our hardest to light some candles and not curse the darkness,” Jesse Luxton says. “Without economic strength through education there is no strong America.”

The (last) view

Texas State students Clayton Maddox, Kelsey Griffis and Samantha Larghe paddle canoes on the Rio Grande during the winter break January 2015 in Big Bend National Park. Nine students and campus recreation coordinator Anthony Deringer participated. The Adventure Trip Program is an avenue that the Outdoor Recreation Program has used to introduce the Texas State community to the benefits of Outdoor Adventure Education since 1986. Photo by Garret Sylvia.





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from the collections



Closing night poster for Austin's original Armadillo World Headquarters, © 1980, Micael Priest

AT THE WITTLIFF COLLECTIONS

Armadillo Rising: Austin's Music Scene in the 1970s

THROUGH JULY 3, 2015

In the early 1970s, the Armadillo World Headquarters became the cosmic capital of Austin's burgeoning music scene, sparking the rise of a uniquely Texas blend of rock, country and blues that transformed American music. The Wittliff Collections' exhibition *Armadillo Rising: Austin's Music Scene in the 1970s* tells the story of a city that blossomed into "the live music capital of the world."

Armadillo Rising showcases many treasures from the Wittliff's extensive Texas Music archives, including handwritten song lyrics by Willie Nelson and Jerry Jeff Walker along with their signed guitars. Also included are photographs, rare sound recordings and memorabilia. Selections from the Austin City Limits archive, donated by founder Bill Arhos, are featured along with vintage materials from the Armadillo World Headquarters. Pop culture keepsakes from the collection of Jerry Retzliff, the local district manager for Lone Star Beer during the decade, highlight the importance of longnecks to the music culture. Perhaps most enlightening are interviews, photographs, and mementos from the Wittliff's archives of authors who've written expertly about Texas music: Joe Nick Patoski (author of biographies on Willie Nelson and Stevie Ray Vaughan), John T. Davis (author of *Austin City Limits: 25 Years of American Music*), Bud Shrake (co-author of *Willie: An Autobiography*), and Jan Reid (author of *The Improbable Rise of Redneck Rock*).

Armadillo Rising coincides with another major exhibition at the Wittliff, *Homegrown: Austin Music Posters, 1967 to 1982*. *Homegrown* shows more than 120 vintage posters from Austin's early music scene—the designs and artists of which are subjects of the newest publication in the Wittliff's book series. *Homegrown* also runs through July 3.